

FOR RELEASE JUNE 11, 2015

# Multiracial in America

## *Proud, Diverse and Growing in Numbers*

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## About This Report

This report, produced by Pew Research Center, examines the attitudes, experiences and demographic characteristics of multiracial Americans. The findings are based on data from two primary sources: A nationally representative survey of 1,555 multiracial Americans ages 18 and older, conducted online from Feb. 6 to April 6, 2015, and Pew Research analyses of data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau.

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## Notes on Terminology

The terms “multiracial” and “mixed race” are used interchangeably throughout this report. For more details on how the sample of multiracial adults was defined, see the “Defining ‘Multiracial’” textbox on page 13 or Appendix A. “Adults” are those who are ages 18 and older.

Unless otherwise noted, survey results based on all multiracial adults include Hispanics who are two or more races. In analysis of the Pew Research survey, biracial groups and other subgroups such as “multiracial whites” include only non-Hispanics. Single-race whites, blacks and Asians include only non-Hispanics. In the analysis of multiracial subgroups based on census data (in Chapter 1), Hispanics are included.

Throughout this report, the terms “American Indian” and “Native American” are used interchangeably and “Amer. Indian” is used as an abbreviation in charts and tables. Alaska Natives are included among those with some American Indian background in the survey analysis.

The terms “Latino” and “Hispanic” are used interchangeably.

The terms “black” and “African American” are used interchangeably.

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## Overview

Multiracial Americans are at the cutting edge of social and demographic change in the U.S.—young, proud, tolerant and growing at a rate three times as fast as the population as a whole.

As America becomes more racially diverse and social taboos against interracial marriage fade, a new Pew Research Center survey finds that majorities of multiracial adults are proud of their mixed-race background (60%) and feel their racial heritage has made them more open to other cultures (59%).

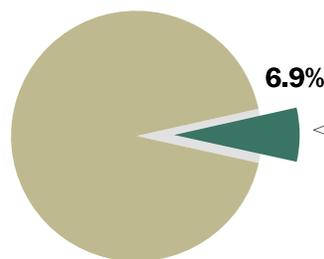
At the same time, a majority (55%) say they have been subjected to racial slurs or jokes, and about one-in-four (24%) have felt annoyed because people have made assumptions about their racial background. Still, few see their multiracial background as a liability. In fact, only 4% say having a mixed racial background has been a disadvantage in their life. About one-in-five (19%) say it has been an advantage, and 76% say it has made no difference.

While multiracial adults share some things in common, they cannot be easily categorized.

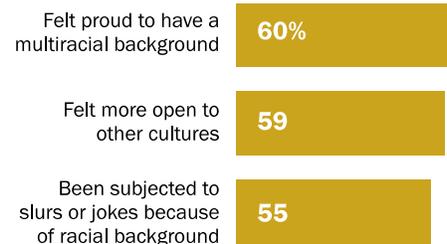
Their experiences and attitudes differ significantly depending on the races that make up their background and how the world sees them. For example, multiracial adults with a black background—69% of whom say most people would view them as black or African American—have a set of experiences, attitudes and social interactions that are much more closely aligned with the black community. A different pattern emerges among multiracial Asian adults; biracial white and Asian adults feel more closely connected to whites than to Asians. Among biracial adults who are white and American Indian—the largest group of multiracial adults—ties to their Native American

### The Multiracial Experience

*Percentage of all U.S. adults who have at least two races in their background (including themselves, their parents or their grandparents)*



*Percentage of adults with a mixed racial background who have ...*



Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=21,224 sampled adults including 1,555 multiracial adults)

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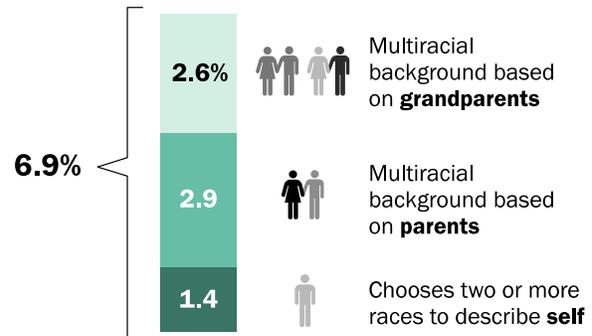
heritage are often faint: Only 22% say they have a lot in common with people in the U.S. who are American Indian, whereas 61% say they have a lot in common with whites.<sup>1</sup>

The U.S. Census Bureau finds that, in 2013, about 9 million Americans chose two or more racial categories when asked about their race.<sup>2</sup> The Census Bureau first started allowing people to choose more than one racial category to describe themselves in 2000. Since then, the nation's multiracial population has grown substantially. Between 2000 and 2010, the number of white and black biracial Americans **more than doubled**, while the population of adults with a white and Asian background increased by 87%. And during that decade, the nation elected as president Barack Obama—the son of a black father from Kenya and a white mother from Kansas.

The share of multiracial babies has risen from 1% in 1970 to 10% in 2013.<sup>3</sup> And with interracial marriages also on the rise, demographers expect this rapid growth to continue, if not quicken, in the decades to come.

Yet the Pew Research survey findings suggest that the census's estimate that 2.1% of the adult population is multiracial may understate the size of the country's mixed-race population. Taking into account how adults describe their own race as well as the racial backgrounds of their parents and grandparents—which the census count does not do—Pew Research estimates that 6.9% of the

## Estimating the Size of the Multiracial Population



Respondents can be counted as multiracial one of three ways:

First (**self**), if they select two or more races for themselves.

Second (**parents**), if they do not select two or more races for themselves but report that at least one of their biological parents was not the same race as them, or select two or more races for at least one of their parents.

Third (**grandparents**), if they do not fit the definition of multiracial based on their own or their parents' racial background, but indicate that at least one of their grandparents was not the same race as themselves or their parents, or select two or more races for at least one of their grandparents.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=21,224 sampled adults)

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<sup>1</sup> The survey included 1,555 multiracial adults, which allowed for analysis of several subgroups of multiracial adults. The following biracial groups (consisting of adults with two races in their background, including the races they give for themselves, their parents or their grandparents, and who are not of Hispanic origin) are included in the analysis: white and American Indian, black and American Indian, white and black, and white and Asian. One tri-racial group is also included: non-Hispanic white, black and American Indian. Other subgroups are included in the total sample of 1,555 but not broken out individually due to limited sample size.

<sup>2</sup> The Census Bureau estimates include those who gave a single race along with the "some other race" category as multiracial. The Pew Research Center estimates do not include "some other race" as a racial category. Among the 21,224 adults sampled for the Pew Research survey, 1.6% listed "some other race," and the vast majority of them then specified a nationality or ethnicity (such as German, Portuguese or Russian) as their "other race." Many also said they were "American."

<sup>3</sup> Percentages are based on children under age 1 who are living with two parents. "Multiracial babies" are defined as those whose parents are different races, or who have at least one multiracial parent.

U.S. adult population could be considered multiracial. This estimate comprises 1.4% in the survey who chose two or more races for themselves, an additional 2.9% who chose one race for themselves but said that at least one of their parents was a different race or multiracial, and 2.6% who are counted as multiracial because at least one of their grandparents was a different race than them or their parents.<sup>4</sup>

These findings emerge from a nationally representative survey of 1,555 multiracial Americans ages 18 and older, conducted online from Feb. 6 to April 6, 2015. The sample of multiracial adults was identified after contacting and collecting basic demographic information on more than 21,000 adults nationwide. For comparative purposes, an additional 1,495 adults from the general public were surveyed, including an oversample of non-Hispanic adults who are black and have no other races in their background and who are Asian and no other race.

To be sure, not all adults with a mixed racial background consider themselves “multiracial.” In fact, 61% do not. An added layer of complexity is that racial identity can be fluid and may change over the course of one’s life, or even from one situation to another. About three-in-ten adults with a multiracial background say that they have changed the way they describe their race over the years—with some saying they once thought of themselves as only one race and now think of themselves as more than one race, and others saying just the opposite.

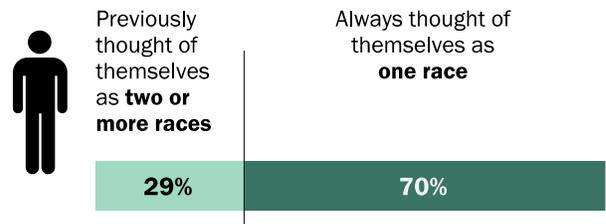
In addition to painting a portrait of multiracial Americans, the survey findings challenge some traditional ideas about race. The Census Bureau currently recognizes five racial categories: white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian or

### For Some, Racial Identity Has Changed

Percentage of adults with a multiracial background who say they are **two or more races** who ...



Percentage of adults with a multiracial background who say they are **only one race** who ...



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Those who gave no answer are shown but not labeled.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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<sup>4</sup> The vast majority of multiracial adults captured in the survey (89%) are biracial, or report two races in their background. An additional 10% report three races in their background, and less than 1% say they have four or more races in their background.

Pacific Islander. Hispanic origin is asked about separately as an ethnicity and is not considered a race.

But when Latinos are asked whether they consider being Hispanic to be part of their racial or ethnic background, the survey finds that about two-thirds of Hispanics say it is, at least in part, their race. For the majority of this report, Hispanic origin is treated as an ethnicity, rather than a race, and multiracial Hispanics are those who say they are Hispanic and two separate races (for example, someone who is Hispanic and also chooses black and white as his or her races). This is consistent with how the Census Bureau counts mixed-race Hispanics. However, because Hispanic identity is tied to both race and ethnicity for many Latinos, Chapter 7 of this report explores a broader definition of mixed race.

## The Multiracial Experience

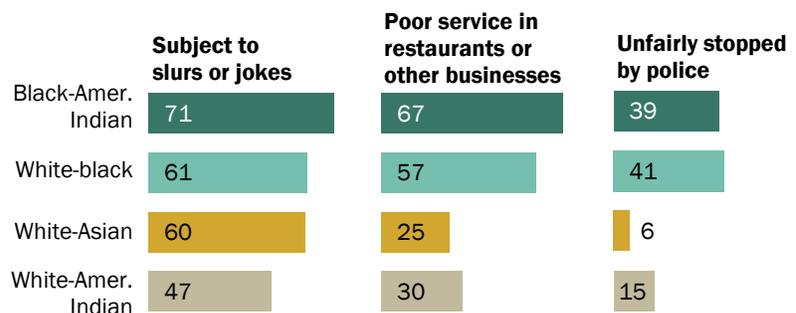
The survey finds that many multiracial adults, like other racial minorities, have experienced some type of racial discrimination, from racist slurs to physical threats, because of their racial background.

Again, the specific races that make up an individual's background matter. For example, while about four-in-ten mixed-race adults with a black background say they have been unfairly stopped by the police because of their racial background, only 6% of biracial white and Asian adults and 15% of white and American Indian adults say they have had this experience. A similar pattern is evident for other types of racial discrimination.

For multiracial adults with a black background, experiences with discrimination closely mirror those of single-race blacks. Among adults who are black and no other race, 57% say they have received poor service in restaurants or other businesses, identical to

### Many Multiracial Adults Have Experienced Racial Discrimination

*% saying they have ever experienced each of these because of their racial background*



Note: Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Sample sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

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the share of biracial black and white adults who say this has happened to them; and 42% of single-race blacks say they have been unfairly stopped by the police, as do 41% of biracial black and white adults. Mixed-race adults with an Asian background are about as likely to report being discriminated against as are single-race Asians, while multiracial adults with a white background are more likely than single-race whites to say they have experienced racial discrimination.

Demographically, multiracial Americans are younger—and strikingly so—than the country as a whole. According to Pew Research Center analysis of the 2013 American Community Survey, the median age of all multiracial Americans is 19, compared with 38 for single-race Americans.

The Pew Research survey finds that multiracial adults also are less likely than other adults to be college graduates and less likely to be currently married. But when they do wed, mixed-race Americans are more likely than other adults to marry someone who also is multiracial. Mixed-race adults are also more likely than the general public to have close friends or neighbors who are multiracial.

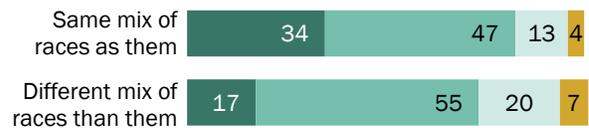
Even so, shared multiracial backgrounds do not necessarily translate into shared identity. Only about a third (34%) of all multiracial Americans think they have a lot in common with other adults who are the same racial mix that they are, while only half as many (17%) think they share a lot with multiracial Americans whose racial background is different from their own.

### Do Multiracial Adults Feel a Common Bond with Other Multiracial Adults?

*% of all multiracial adults who have ... in common*

■ A lot ■ Some ■ Only a little ■ Nothing at all

*With people who are ...*



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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## The Size of the Multiracial Population

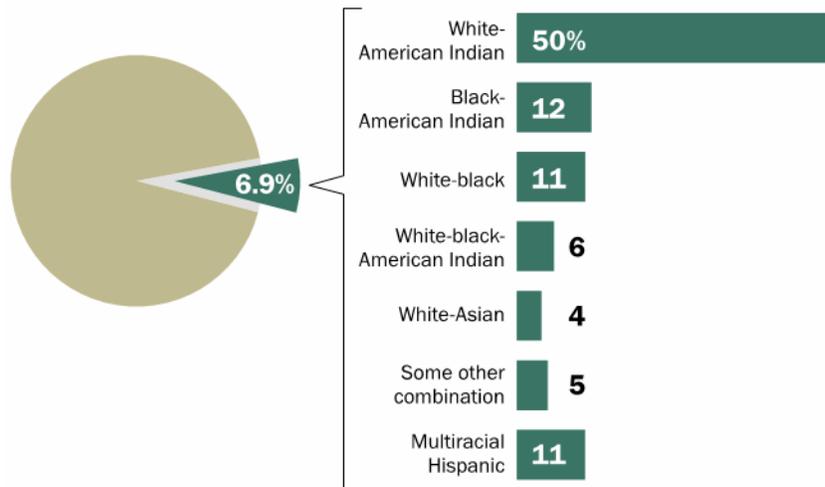
It was less than 50 years ago that the U.S. Supreme Court, in the case bearing the evocative title *Loving v. Virginia*, struck down laws prohibiting mixed-race marriages. And it has been only 15 years since the U.S. Census Bureau first allowed Americans to choose more than one race when filling out their census form.

Since then the multiracial population has grown significantly. To measure its size, the Pew Research Center used a different method than the Census Bureau for determining an individual's racial background. In addition to self-reported race, Pew Research took into account the racial backgrounds of parents and grandparents. This approach led to the estimate that multiracial adults currently make up 6.9% of the adult American population.

Using this definition, the Pew Research survey finds that biracial adults with a white and American Indian background comprise half of the country's multiracial population—by far the country's largest multiracial group but also the one whose members are the least likely to consider themselves “multiracial” despite their mixed-race background.<sup>5</sup>

### White and American Indian Biracial Adults Are the Largest Multiracial Group

*Percentage of all U.S. adults who have at least two races in their background (based on races of self, parents or grandparents)*



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Multiracial subgroups and “some other combination” are non-Hispanic and mutually exclusive. The multiracial Hispanic subgroup includes Hispanics who are also any two or more races. Multiracial subgroups may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=21,224 sampled adults including 1,555 multiracial adults)

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<sup>5</sup> Unless otherwise noted, multiracial subgroups do not include Hispanics.

Black and American Indian biracial adults account for an additional 12% of the total multiracial adult population, while those with a white and black background make up 11%. Those with white, black and American Indian in their racial background make up 6% of the mixed-race population, and white and Asian biracial adults account for 4%. An additional 11% are Hispanic multiracial adults.<sup>6</sup> The remaining share of the mixed-race population is scattered across the 16 other combinations of races represented in the Pew Research sample.

The relatively small share of all U.S. adults who are mixed race obscures the rapid growth of the multiracial population. If current trends continue—and evidence suggests they may accelerate—the Census Bureau projects that the multiracial population will triple by 2060.

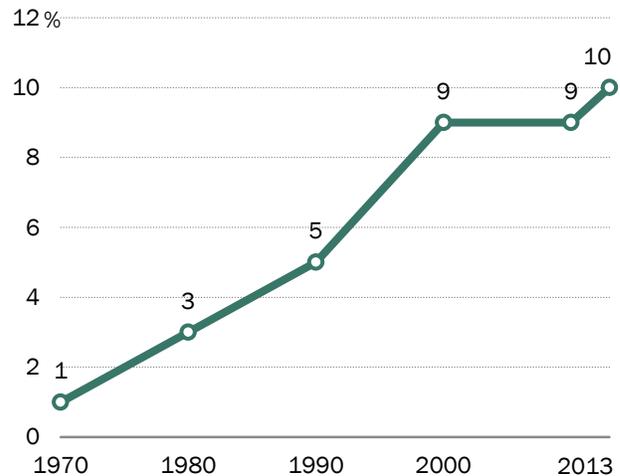
Feeding this growth is the increase in mixed-race couples and, as a natural consequence, births of children who have a multiracial background. For example, since 1980 the share of marriages between spouses of different races has increased almost fourfold (from 1.6% to 6.3% in 2013).

The share of multiracial children is growing at an even faster rate. In 1970, among babies living with two parents, only 1% had parents who were different races from each other. By 2013, that share had risen to 10%.<sup>7</sup> Today, nearly half (46%) of all multiracial Americans are younger than 18. By contrast, only 23% of the overall U.S. population is under the age of 18.

As the multiracial population in the U.S. grows, its profile is also changing. While biracial white and American Indian is currently the predominant group among mixed-race adults, in 2013 a

## Multiracial Babies on the Rise

*% of children younger than 1 year old who are multiracial, among those living with two parents*



Note: In this analysis, “multiracial” is based on the race of the child’s parents. If a child has two parents who are of different races, or if at least one of the child’s parents is multiracial, the child is also identified as multiracial. Analysis is limited to children living with two parents to maintain comparability across time. In 2000, the Census Bureau altered the race variable to allow for people to identify as multiracial. See Chapter 1 for more details.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000 censuses and 2010 and 2013 American Community Surveys (IPUMS)

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<sup>6</sup> This group includes Hispanics who are two or more races. There are too few multiracial Hispanics in the sample to analyze them by racial subgroups (based on the two races they choose). See Chapter 7 for a more detailed discussion of racial and ethnic identity among multiracial Hispanics.

<sup>7</sup> Based on children younger than 1 year old. Babies are also considered multiracial in this analysis if they have at least one parent who is multiracial.

majority of mixed-race babies<sup>8</sup> were either biracial white and black (36%) or biracial white and Asian (24%). Some 11% were white and American Indian.

## The Multiracial Identity Gap

Multiracial identity is complicated, as much an attitude that can change over a lifetime as it is a genetic or biological certainty. In fact, only four-in-ten adults with a mixed racial background (39%) say they consider themselves to be “mixed race or multiracial.” Fully 61% say they don’t consider themselves to be multiracial.

When asked *why* they don’t identify as multiracial, about half (47%) say it is because they look like one race. An identical share say they were raised as one race, while about four-in-ten (39%) say they closely identify with a single race. And about a third (34%) say they never knew the family member or ancestor who was a different race. (Individuals were allowed to select multiple reasons.)

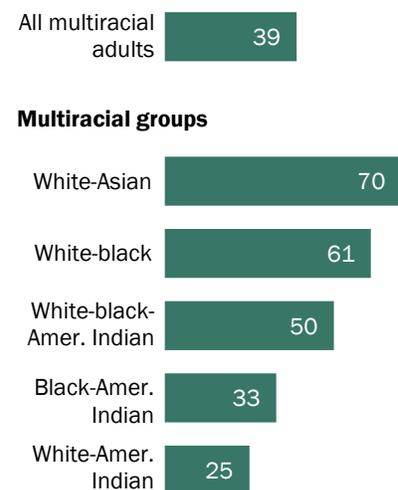
This multiracial “identity gap” plays out in distinctly different ways in different mixed-race groups. A quarter of biracial adults with a white and American Indian background say they consider themselves multiracial. By contrast, seven-in-ten white and Asian biracial adults and 61% of those with a white and black background say they identify as multiracial.

For some mixed-race Americans, the pressure to identify as a single race is a significant part of the multiracial experience. According to the survey, about one-in-five (21%) say they have felt pressure from friends, family or “society in general” to identify as a single race.

A similar share says they have attempted to look or behave a certain way in order to influence the way others perceive their race.

### 4-in-10 Have Mixed-Race Background and Say They’re Multiracial

*% of adults with a background including two or more races who consider themselves “multiracial”*



Note: Based on adults with two or more races in the backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Multiracial subgroups are non-Hispanic and mutually exclusive. Sample sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian, 106 white-black-Amer. Indian.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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<sup>8</sup> Based on all children younger than 1 year old who are identified as having two or more races regardless of whether they are living with one or both parents. On the 2013 American Community Survey, 7% of all babies were counted as being more than one race.

## Defining “Multiracial”

The way racial identity is classified in the U.S. has evolved over 200 years as Americans’ views about their own backgrounds have changed and as the racial and ethnic fabric of the nation has been transformed through immigration and demographic change. Nationally, the single largest data collection on Americans’ racial identity is the U.S. Census Bureau’s decennial census. The decennial census and other Census Bureau surveys now categorize people into the following racial groups: white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander and “some other race.” Prior to the 2000 census, respondents were allowed to choose only one racial category to describe themselves. Since 2000, respondents have had the option to choose more than one race. People who mark two or more races in their answer to the race question are included in the multiple-race population by the Census Bureau. Although respondents are also asked, in a separate question, about their Hispanic or Latino origin, only answers to the race question are used in classifying people into the multiple-race population.

In this report, we use the census race categories as our guide (but we omit the “some other race” category). However, unlike the decennial census, our survey included questions about the racial background of respondents’ parents and grandparents. Our definition of “multiracial adults” casts a wider net than the Census Bureau’s definition, as we take into account the additional information we have gathered about respondents’ family background. Included in our definition of multiracial adults are (1) those who select two or more races for themselves; (2) those who do not select two or more races for themselves but report that at least one of their parents was not the same race as the one they selected for themselves, or select two or more races for at least one of their biological parents; (3) respondents who do not fit the definition of “multiracial” based on their own or their parents’ racial background, but indicate that at least one of their grandparents was not the same race as themselves or their parents, or select two or more races for their grandparents. Our defined multiracial group includes people who indicate that they, their parents or their grandparents are of Hispanic or Latino origin, as long as they also select two or more census races.

In addition to looking at the broader group of multiracial adults, we analyze subsets of this group. For example, we look at the following biracial groups: white and black, white and Asian, white and American Indian, and black and American Indian. At times, we may also look at all multiracial adults with a black or Asian background, for example, regardless of what other races are included in their background, and compare them to single-race blacks or Asians, respectively. These biracial and multiracial subgroups, as well as the single-race groups, exclude Hispanics.

While the definition of multiracial adults used in most of the analysis contained in this report is guided by the Census Bureau’s definition of race, we know that many Hispanics consider Hispanicity to be a race. In our survey, for example, roughly two-thirds of Hispanics say being Hispanic is part of their racial background. With that in mind, a separate part of our analysis includes an expanded definition of multiracial that includes Hispanics who report one census race for themselves, their parents and their grandparents and also say they consider being Hispanic part of their racial background. Chapter 7 of this report focuses on the experiences and attitudes of multiracial Hispanics, using both the census-based and the expanded definitions.

For a more detailed description of our methodology, see Appendix A.

## Being Mixed Race

A majority of multiracial adults say they are proud of their mixed racial background (60%), more see their racial background as an advantage than a disadvantage (19% vs. 4%), and they overwhelmingly say they have rarely if ever felt ashamed or like an outsider because of their mixed racial background.

While these views are broadly shared by each of the five biggest multiracial groups, the large proportion of white and Asian biracial adults who see their racial background as an advantage stands out. About six-in-ten in this group (58%) say their racial background has been an advantage to them in life. In the other four groups, only about one-in-four or fewer say their racial heritage has been as helpful.

This contrast further sharpens when white and Asian biracial Americans are compared with single-race whites and Asians. According to the survey, white and Asian biracial Americans are even more likely than single-race whites (58% vs. 32%, respectively) or Asians (15%) to say their racial background has been an advantage.

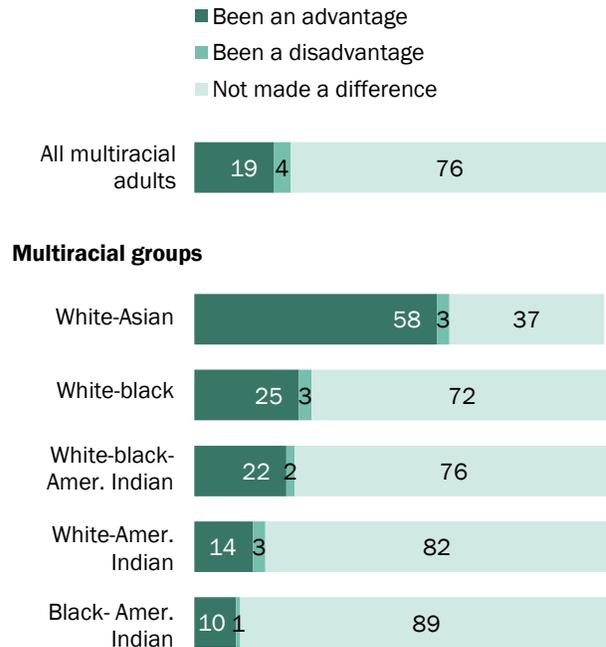
## Social Connections

Mixed-race adults often straddle two or more worlds, and their experiences and relationships reflect that.

Overall, biracial adults who are both white and black are three times as likely to say they have a lot in common with people who are black than they do with whites (58% vs. 19%). They also feel more accepted by blacks than by whites (58% vs. 25% say they are accepted “very well”) and report having far more contact with their black relatives: 69% say they’ve had a lot of contact with family members who are black over the course of their lives, while just 21% report similar levels of

### Few Multiracial Adults Say Their Racial Background Has Been a Disadvantage

*% saying having a racial background that includes more than one race has mainly ...*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Multiracial adults are two or more races. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black- Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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Q33a

contact with their white relatives. About four-in-ten (41%) say they have had no contact with family members who are white.

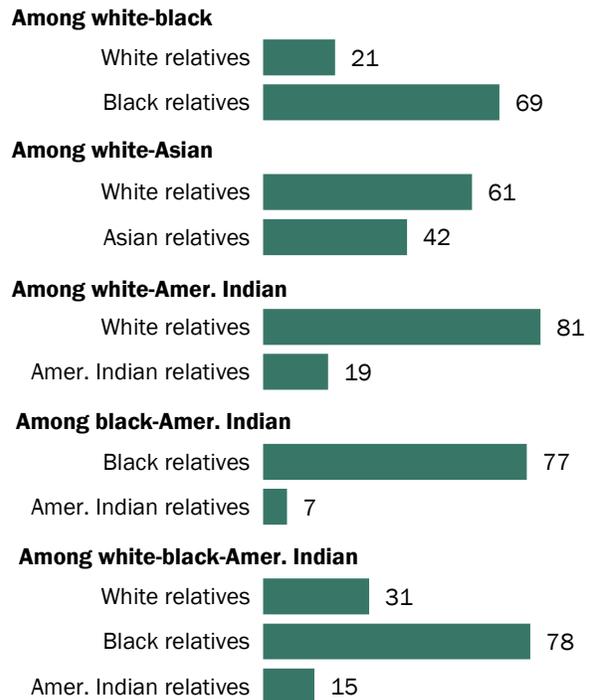
By contrast, biracial adults who are white and Asian say they have more in common with whites than they do with Asians (60% vs. 33%) and are more likely to say they feel accepted by whites than by Asians (62% vs. 47% say they are accepted “very well”). More also say they have had a lot of contact with family members who are white than say the same about Asian members of their family (61% vs. 42%).

For biracial adults who are white or black and American Indian, their connections with the white or black community are often stronger than the ones they feel toward Native Americans; about one-in-four or fewer in each group say they have a lot in common with American Indians.

Other survey findings suggest these differences may slow the development of a multiracial group identity similar to the sense of linked fate and shared experience that unites many blacks and other minority groups.<sup>9</sup> Overall, the Pew Research survey finds that few multiracial adults think they have much in common with other mixed-race Americans—even those who share their racial background.

## Biracial White and Black Adults Have Much Closer Ties to Black Relatives

*% saying they have had a lot of contact with their ...*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Sample sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

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<sup>9</sup> In this context, “linked fate” refers to the joining of self- and racial group interests, the idea that the fate of individuals is linked to the overall well-being of their racial group. For more, see Dawson, Michael. 1994. “Behind the Mule: Race and Class in African American Politics.” Princeton: Princeton University Press, pp. 71-88.

## Marriage and Friendships

As a group, mixed-race adults are much more likely than all married adults to have a spouse or partner who is also multiracial, the survey finds. Among all mixed-race adults who are married or living with a partner, about one-in-eight (12%) say their spouse or partner is two or more races. By comparison, only 2% of adults among the general public who are married or living with a partner say the same.

The survey also finds that multiracial adults with a white background are significantly less likely than single-race whites to have a white partner (67% vs. 92%). Multiracial adults with a black background are also less likely than single-race blacks to have a spouse or partner who is black only (54% vs. 86%).<sup>10</sup>

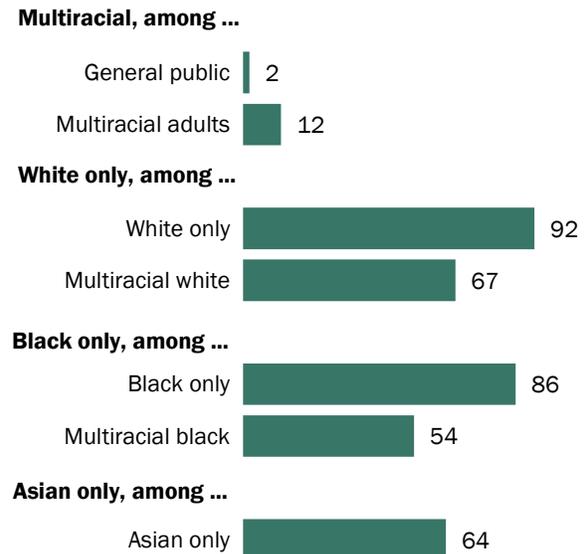
A similar pattern emerges when the focus turns to the friendships formed by multiracial Americans. Mixed-race adults are more likely than the general public to have friends who are multiracial. According to the survey, eight-in-ten multiracial adults say at least some of their friends are mixed-race, compared with 62% for all adults.

## The Politics of Multiracial Americans

Overall, the politics of multiracial Americans resemble the country as a whole. About six-in-ten (57%) multiracial adults identify with or lean toward the Democratic Party, while 37% support or lean toward the Republican Party, and 6% favor neither major party. Among the general public, about half (53%) tend to favor Democrats, while 41% support or lean toward the GOP.

### Multiracial Adults Less Likely to Have Single-Race Partners

*% saying their spouse/partner is ...*



Note: Based on respondents who are married or living with a partner. Races and Hispanic origin of the respondent based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Multiracial adults are two or more races. The multiracial subgroups in this chart are not mutually exclusive and include non-Hispanics only. Multiracial Asians are not shown due to small sample size. Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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<sup>10</sup> Because these questions were filtered on respondents who were married or living with a partner, there are not enough cases to look at individual biracial groups.

But just as the country is a mix of individuals and groups with different party preferences and ideological leanings, multiracial Americans are likewise politically diverse.

Multiracial Americans with a black background favor the Democratic Party, similar to the party preferences of single-race blacks. For example, about nine-in-ten biracial black and American Indian adults (89%) identify or lean toward the Democratic Party, as do 92% of all single-race blacks. By contrast, single-race whites favor the Republican Party over the Democrats by a ratio of 55% to 41%.

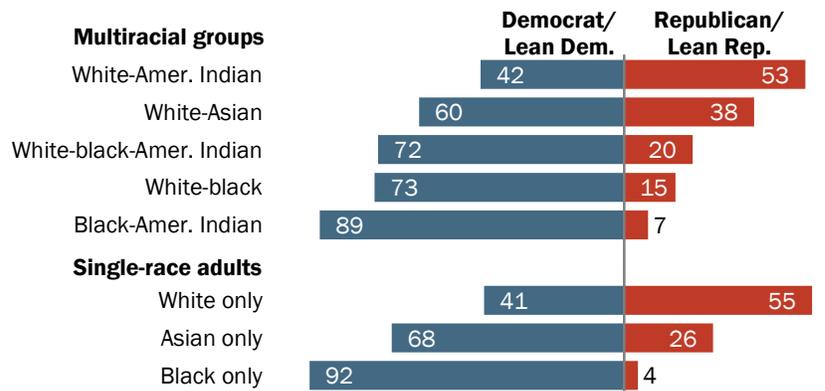
White and Asian biracial adults also tend to favor the Democratic Party over the GOP (60% vs. 38%), roughly similar to the 68% to 26% advantage held by Democrats among single-race Asians.

The political leanings of biracial white and American Indians—the country’s largest multiracial group—closely resemble those of single-race whites. Among this group, the Republican Party holds a 53% to 42% advantage over the Democrats, making it the only major mixed-race group that tilts toward the GOP. (The sample of single-race Native Americans was too small to analyze.)

The remainder of this report examines in greater detail the attitudes, experiences and demographics of multiracial Americans. Chapter 1 traces the history of efforts by the U.S. Census Bureau to measure race and reports on the latest government estimates of the size of the multiracial population. Chapter 2 describes how the Pew Research Center used a different method than the Census Bureau to measure racial background and how that method produces a significantly larger estimate of the country’s multiracial population. Chapter 3 describes how multiracial adults see their own racial identity and how they believe others see their racial

## White and American Indian Adults Are the Only Multiracial Group that Leans Republican

*% who identify with or lean toward each party*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Sample sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic. Those who refused to lean or gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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background. Chapter 4 focuses on how the racial backgrounds of the country's largest multiracial groups shape their attitudes and experiences in different ways, including the likelihood they have encountered racial discrimination. Chapter 5 describes the social connections of multiracial Americans, including how much mixed-race adults say they have in common with other races and how accepted they feel by different racial groups. Chapter 6 examines the party preferences and political ideology of multiracial adults as well as their views on abortion, aid to the poor, marijuana legalization and other issues. Chapter 7 reports on the elements of Hispanic identity and the percentage of Hispanics who consider their Hispanic background to be, at least in part, their race. It also explores an expanded definition of multiracial adults that includes Hispanics who are one race but say they consider their Hispanic background to be part of their racial background.

### **Other Key Findings**

- In their ideological preferences, white and American Indian biracial adults are the only group where political conservatives outnumber liberals (37% to 18%), virtually identical to the ideological preferences of single-race whites. Biracial Americans who are white and Asian or white and black tilt toward the political left.
- Few multiracial adults (9%) say a relative or member of their extended family has treated them badly because they are mixed race. But these experiences vary considerably by multiracial group. For example, white and black biracial adults are much more likely than adults with a biracial white and American Indian background to say they have been treated badly by a family member (21% vs. 4%).
- Today's mixed-race parents are more likely to have talked to their own children about being multiracial. Fully 46% of multiracial parents say they talked to their adult children when they were growing up about having a mixed-race background. By contrast, about a third (32%) say their parents had similar conversations with them.
- One-in-four mixed-race adults say people are often or sometimes confused by their racial background. And one-in-five (19%) say that they have felt like they were a go-between or "bridge" between different racial groups.
- For multiracial adults, as for the general public, race is not the most important element of their personal identity. Some 26% of multiracial adults say their racial background is "essential" to their identity (as do 28% of all adults). Both multiracial adults and the general public are much more likely to point to gender (50% for multiracial adults, 51% for the general public) or religion (39% for both groups) as essential parts of their identity.

## Chapter 1: Race and Multiracial Americans in the U.S. Census

Every U.S. census since the first one in 1790 has included questions about racial identity, reflecting the central role of race in American history from the era of slavery to current headlines about racial profiling and inequality. But the ways in which race is asked about and classified have changed from census to census, as the politics and science of race have fluctuated. And efforts to measure the multiracial population are still evolving.

From 1790 to 1950, census takers determined the race of the Americans they counted, sometimes taking into account how individuals were perceived in their community or using rules based on their share of “black blood.” Americans who were of multiracial ancestry were either counted in a single race or classified into categories that mainly consisted of gradations of black and white, such as mulattoes, who were tabulated with the non-white population. Beginning in 1960, Americans could choose their own race. Since 2000, they have had the option to identify with more than one.

This change in census practice coincided with changed thinking about the meaning of race.

When marshals on horseback conducted the first census, race was thought to be a fixed physical characteristic. Racial categories reinforced laws and scientific views asserting white superiority. Social scientists today generally agree that race is more of a fluid concept influenced by current social and political thinking.<sup>11</sup>

Along with new ways to think about race have come new ways to use race data collected by the census. Race and Hispanic origin data are used in the enforcement of equal employment

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### Instructions to 1930 Census Takers on Counting People by Race

#### PERSONAL DESCRIPTION

149. Column 11. Sex.—Write “M” for male and “F” for female, as indicated in the notes at the bottom of the schedule.

150. Column 12. Color or race.—Write “W” for white; “Neg” for Negro; “Mex” for Mexican; “In” for Indian; “Ch” for Chinese; “Jp” for Japanese; “Fil” for Filipino; “Hin” for Hindu; and “Kor” for Korean. For a person of any other race, write the race in full.

151. Negroes.—A person of mixed white and Negro blood should be returned as a Negro, no matter how small the percentage of Negro blood. Both black and mulatto persons are to be returned as Negroes, without distinction. A person of mixed Indian and Negro blood should be returned a Negro, unless the Indian blood predominates and the status as an Indian is generally accepted in the community.

152. Indians.—A person of mixed white and Indian blood should be returned as Indian, except where the percentage of Indian blood is very small, or where he is regarded as a white person by those in the community where he lives. (See par. 151 for mixed Indian and Negro.)

153. For a person reported as Indian in column 12, report is to be made in column 19 as to whether “full blood” or “mixed blood,” and in column 20 the name of the tribe is to be reported. For Indians, columns 19 and 20 are thus to be used to indicate the degree of Indian blood and the tribe, instead of the birthplace of father and mother.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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<sup>11</sup> One “extreme example of inconsistency in the classification by race over time,” described in a Census Bureau working paper, is that a person counted as an Asian Indian since 1980 could have been classified three other ways in earlier censuses: Hindu in 1920-1940, “other race” in 1950-1960 and white in 1970. See Gibson, Campbell, and Kay Jung. 2005. “Historical Census Statistics on Population Totals by Race, 1790 to 1990, and by Hispanic Origin, 1970 to 1990, for Large Cities and Other Urban Places in the United States.” Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau, February. <https://www.census.gov/population/www/documentation/twps0076/twps0076.pdf>

opportunity and other anti-discrimination laws. When state officials redraw the boundaries of congressional and other political districts, they employ census race and Hispanic origin data to comply with federal requirements that minority voting strength not be diluted. The census categories also are used by Americans as a vehicle to express personal identity.<sup>12</sup>

The first census in 1790 had only three racial categories: free whites, all other free persons and slaves. “Mulatto” was added in 1850, and other multiracial categories were included in subsequent counts. The most recent decennial census, in 2010, had 63 possible race categories: six for single races and 57 for combined races. In 2010, 2.9% of all Americans (9 million) chose more than one racial category to describe themselves.<sup>13</sup> The largest groups were white-American Indian, white-Asian, white-black and white-some other race.<sup>14</sup>

Some research indicates that using data from the current census race question to tally the number of multiracial Americans may undercount this population. An alternative is to use responses to the Census Bureau’s question about “ancestry or ethnic origin.” Here respondents are allowed to write in one or two responses (for example, German, Nicaraguan, Jamaican or Eskimo). These can then be mapped into racial groups. By this metric, 4.3% of Americans (more than 13 million) reported two-race ancestry in 2010-2012, an estimate that is about 70% larger than the 7.9 million who reported two races in answering the race question.<sup>15</sup>

## How the 2010 U.S. Census Asked About Hispanic Origin and Race

→ NOTE: Please answer BOTH Question 5 about Hispanic origin and Question 6 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.

5. Is this person of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin

Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano

Yes, Puerto Rican

Yes, Cuban

Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin — Print origin, for example, Argentinian, Colombian, Dominican, Nicaraguan, Salvadoran, Spaniard, and so on. ↗

6. What is this person's race? Mark  one or more boxes.

White

Black, African Am., or Negro

American Indian or Alaska Native — Print name of enrolled or principal tribe. ↗

Asian Indian     Japanese     Native Hawaiian

Chinese     Korean     Guamanian or Chamorro

Filipino     Vietnamese     Samoan

Other Asian — Print race, for example, Hmong, Laotian, Thai, Pakistani, Cambodian, and so on. ↗

Other Pacific Islander — Print race, for example, Fijian, Tongan, and so on. ↗

Some other race — Print race. ↗

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

<sup>12</sup> This racial self-identity can change, as demonstrated by recent research that found at least 9.8 million Americans gave a different race and/or Hispanic origin response in the 2010 census than in the 2000 census. This was particularly true for people of multiracial background. See Liebler, Carolyn, et al. 2014. “America’s Churning Races: Race and Ethnic Response Changes between Census 2000 and the 2010 Census.” Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau, August. [http://www.census.gov/srd/carra/Americas\\_Churning\\_Races.pdf](http://www.census.gov/srd/carra/Americas_Churning_Races.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> 2.1% of adult Americans chose more than one racial category in 2010.

<sup>14</sup> The order of categories for each multiracial group—white and black, for example—follows Census Bureau convention. As explained below, “some other race” is a residual category, with a write-in box, in addition to the five standard race categories.

<sup>15</sup> The 7.9 million figure, which is derived from 2010-2012 American Community Survey data, reflects the number who reported two races. This is different from the 9 million figure, included elsewhere, which is derived from the 2010 decennial census and reflects the number who reported two or more races.

The ancestry data also offer a longer time trend: A Pew Research analysis finds that the number of Americans with two different racial ancestries has more than doubled since 1980, when the ancestry question was first asked.

This chapter explores the history of how the U.S. decennial census has counted and classified Americans by race and Hispanic origin, with a particular focus on people of multiracial backgrounds, and examines possible future changes to the way race is enumerated in U.S. censuses. The chapter also examines the racial makeup and age structure of the nation's multiracial population, based on the Census Bureau's American Community Survey. The final section explores trends in the number and share of Americans who report two ancestries that have predominantly different racial compositions, also based on the Census Bureau's American Community Survey. Readers should note that estimates here—as they are based on Census Bureau data—may differ from those derived from the Pew Research Center survey of multiracial Americans that will form the basis of the analysis for subsequent chapters of this report.

## How the Census Asks About Race

Currently census questionnaires ask U.S. residents about their race and Hispanic ethnicity using a two-question format. On the [2010 census form](#) (and current American Community Survey forms), respondents are first asked whether they are of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin (and, if so, which origin—Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or another Hispanic origin).

The next question asks them to mark one or more boxes to describe their race. The options include white, black, American Indian/Alaska Native, as well as national origin categories (such as Chinese) that are part of the Asian or Hawaiian/Pacific Islander races. People filling out the form may also check the box for “some other race” and fill in the name of that race. Explicit instructions on the form note that Hispanic/Latino identity is not a race.

## New Census Question Could Ask About Both Race and Hispanic Origin

What is this person's race or origin? Mark  one or more boxes **AND** print the specific race(s) and/or origin(s).

**White** – Print origin(s), for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc.

**Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin** – Print origin(s), for example, Mexican or Mexican American, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Dominican, Salvadoran, Colombian, etc.

**Black or African Am.** – Print origin(s), for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Ghanaian, etc.

**Asian** – Print origin(s), for example, Chinese, Filipino, Asian Indian, Vietnamese, Korean, Japanese, etc.

**American Indian or Alaska Native** – Print origin(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Mayan, Doyon, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, etc.

**Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander** – Print origin(s), for example, Native Hawaiian, Samoan, Guamanian or Chamorro, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc.

**Some other race or origin** – Print race(s) and/or origin(s).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Nonetheless, many respondents write in “Hispanic,” “Latino” or a country with Spanish or Latin roots, suggesting that the standard racial categories are less relevant to them.

This two-question format was introduced in 1980, the first year that a Hispanic category was included on all census forms. (See below for more on the history of how the Census Bureau has counted Hispanics.)

The option to choose more than one race, beginning in 2000, followed Census Bureau testing of several approaches, including a possible “multiracial” category. The change in policy to allow more than one race to be checked was the result of lobbying by advocates for multiracial people and families who wanted recognition of their identity. The population of Americans with multiple racial or ethnic backgrounds has been growing due to repeal of laws banning intermarriage, changing public attitudes about mixed-race relationships and the rise of immigration from Latin America and Asia. One important indicator is in the [growth in interracial marriage](#): The share of married couples with spouses of different races increased nearly fourfold from 1980 (1.6%) to 2013 (6.3%).

For the 2020 census, the Census Bureau is considering a new approach to asking U.S. residents about their race or origin. Beginning with the 2010 census, the bureau has undertaken a series of experiments trying out different versions of the race and Hispanic questions. The latest version being tested, as described below, combines the Hispanic and race questions into one question, with write-in boxes in which respondents can add more detail.

## Counting Whites and Blacks

Through the centuries, the government has revised the race and Hispanic origin categories it uses to reflect current science, government needs, social attitudes and changes in the nation’s racial composition.<sup>16</sup>

For most of its history, the United States has had two major races, and until recent decades whites and blacks dominated the census racial categories.<sup>17</sup> (American Indians were not counted in early

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<sup>16</sup> Much of the history in this chapter is drawn from Humes, Karen, and Howard Hogan. 2009. “Measurement of Race and Ethnicity in a Changing, Multicultural America.” *Race and Social Problems*, September <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12552-009-9011-5>; Bennett, Claudette. 2000. “Racial Categories Used in the Decennial Censuses, 1790 to the Present,” *Government Information Quarterly*, April <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0740624X00000241>; Nobles, Melissa. 2000. “Shades of Citizenship.” Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press; U.S. Census Bureau. 2002. “[Measuring America: The Decennial Censuses from 1790 to 2000.](#)” Washington, D.C.: April. <http://www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/pol02-ma.pdf>

<sup>17</sup> The race and Hispanic origin categories used throughout the federal government (and by recipients of federal funding) currently are set by the Office of Management and Budget, and the last major revision was in 1997. In addition to their use on census questionnaires, the categories apply to federal household surveys and other forms such as birth and death certificates, school registrations, military records and mortgage applications

censuses because they were considered to live in separate nations.) At first, blacks were counted only as slaves, but in 1820 a “free colored persons” category was added, encompassing about 13% of blacks.<sup>18</sup>

In a society where whites had more legal rights and privileges than people of other races, detailed rules limited who was entitled to be called “white” in the census. Until the middle of the 20th century, the general rule was that if someone was both white and any other non-white race (or “color,” as it was called in some early censuses), that person could not be classified as white. This was worded in various ways in the written rules that census takers were given. In the 1930 census, for example, enumerators were told that a person who was both black and white should be counted as black, “no matter how small the percentage of Negro blood,” a classification system known as the “one-drop rule.”<sup>19</sup>

## Mulattos, Quadroons and Octoroons

Some race scientists and public officials believed it was important to know more about groups that were not “pure” white or black. Some scientists believed these groups were less fertile, or otherwise weak; they looked to census data to support their theories.<sup>20</sup> From the mid-19th century through 1920, the census race categories included some specific multiracial groups, mainly those that were black and white.

### The 1860 Census Had Three Race Categories: White, Black and Mulatto

	Dwelling Houses— numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	DESCRIPTION.			Profession, each per: over 15 y
				Age.	Sex.	White, Black, or Mulatto.	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
1							
2							
3							

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

<sup>18</sup> See Gibson, Campbell, and Kay Jung. 2002. “Historical Census Statistics on Population Totals by Race, 1790 to 1990, and by Hispanic Origin, 1970 to 1990, for the United States, Regions, Divisions and States.” Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau, September. [http://mapmaker.rutgers.edu/REFERENCE/Hist\\_Pop\\_stats.pdf](http://mapmaker.rutgers.edu/REFERENCE/Hist_Pop_stats.pdf)

<sup>19</sup> However, enumerators may not have followed instructions in all cases, according to preliminary research by Aliya Saperstein and Carolyn Liebler presented at the 2013 Population Association of America conference (<http://paa2013.princeton.edu/papers/132526>). Their work indicates that on average, from 1900 to 1960, nearly one-third of children ages 9 or younger with a black parent and a white parent were reported in the census as white.

<sup>20</sup> See Nobles (2000).

“Mulatto” was a category from 1850 to 1890 and in 1910 and 1920. “Octoroon” and “quadroon” were categories in 1890. Definitions for these groups varied from census to census. In 1870, “mulatto” was defined as including “quadroons, octoroons and all persons having any perceptible trace of African blood.” The instructions to census takers said that “important scientific results” depended on their including people in the right categories. In 1890, a mulatto was defined as someone with “three-eighths to five-eighths black blood,” a quadroon had “one-fourth black blood” and an octoroon had “one-eighth or any trace of black blood.”<sup>21</sup>

The word “Negro” was added in 1900 to replace “colored,” and census officials noted that the new term was increasingly favored “among members of the African race.”<sup>22</sup> In 2000, [“African American” was added to the census form](#). In 2013, the bureau announced that because “Negro” was offensive to many, [the term would be dropped](#) from census forms and surveys.

Although American Indians were not included in early U.S. censuses, an “Indian” category was added in 1860, but enumerators counted only those American Indians who were considered assimilated (for example, those who settled in or near white communities). The census did not attempt to count the entire American Indian population until 1890.

In some censuses, enumerators were told to categorize American Indians according to the amount of Indian or other blood they had, considered a marker of assimilation.<sup>23</sup> In 1900, for example, census takers were told to record the proportion of white blood for each American Indian they enumerated. The 1930 census instructions for enumerators said that people who were white-Indian were to be counted as Indian “except where the percentage of Indian blood is very small, or where he is regarded as a white person by those in the community where he lives.”

## Efforts to Categorize Multiracial Americans

In the 1960 census, enumerators were told that people they counted who were both white and any other race should be categorized in the minority race. People of multiracial non-white backgrounds were categorized according to their father’s race. There were some exceptions: If someone was both Indian and Negro (the preferred term at the time), census takers were told the person should be considered Negro unless “Indian blood very definitely predominated” and “the person was regarded in the community as an Indian.”

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<sup>21</sup> A Census Bureau working paper that is a widely cited source of historic statistics on race says these statistics are of “dubious accuracy and usefulness.” See Gibson and Jung (2002).

<sup>22</sup> See Humes and Hogan (2009).

<sup>23</sup> These records can be used today by people seeking to prove they have American Indian ancestors, in order to be eligible for tribal membership or other benefits. See [http://www.indian-affairs.org/resources/aaia\\_faqs.htm](http://www.indian-affairs.org/resources/aaia_faqs.htm) and <http://publishing.cdlib.org/ucpressebooks/view?docid=ft8g5008gq&chunk.id=d0e7238&toc.depth=1&toc.id=d0e3210&brand=ucpress>

Some Asian categories have been included on census questionnaires since 1860—“Chinese,” for example, has been on every census form since then.<sup>24</sup> The 1960 census also included, for the first and only time, a category called “Part Hawaiian,” which applied only to people living in Hawaii. It coincided with Hawaii’s admission as a state; a full Hawaiian category also was included. (The 1960 census was also the first after Alaska’s admission as a state, and “Eskimo” and “Aleut” categories were added that year.)

In most censuses, the instructions to enumerators did not spell out how to tell which race someone belonged to, or how to determine blood fractions for American Indians or for people who were black and white. But census takers were assumed to know their communities, especially from 1880 onward, when government-appointed census supervisors replaced the federal marshals who had conducted earlier censuses. In the 1880 census, emphasis was placed on hiring people who lived in the district they counted and knew “every house and every family.” However, enumerator quality varied widely.<sup>25</sup>

Despite repeatedly including multiracial categories, census officials expressed doubt about the quality of data the categories produced. The 1890 categories of mulatto, octoroon and quadroon were not on the 1900 census, after census officials judged the data “of little value and misleading.” Mulatto was added back in 1910 but removed again in 1930 after the data were judged “very imperfect.”<sup>26</sup>

In 1970, respondents were offered guidance on how to choose their own race: They were told to mark the race they most closely identified with from the single-race categories offered. If they were uncertain, the race of the person’s father prevailed. In 1980 and 1990, if a respondent marked more than one race category, the Census Bureau re-categorized the person to a single race, usually using the race of the respondent’s mother, if available. Beginning in 2000, although only single-race categories were offered, respondents were told they could mark more than one to identify themselves. This was the first time that all Americans were offered the option to include themselves in more than one racial category. That year, some 2.4% of all Americans (including adults and children) said they were of two or more races.

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<sup>24</sup> Among other single-race Asian subgroups, a Japanese category has been on the census since 1880 and a Filipino category since 1920. A Korean category has been on since 1920, except for 1950 and 1960. The current Asian subgroups listed on the census form—Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, and “other Asian”—have been relatively stable since the 1980 census.

<sup>25</sup> For more details about hiring and quality of enumerators, see Magnuson, Diana L. 1995. “History of Enumeration Procedures, 1790-1940.” IPUMS-USA, University of Minnesota. <https://usa.ipums.org/usa/voliii/enumproc1.shtml>

<sup>26</sup> See Nobles (2000).

Among the major race groups, the option to mark more than one race has had the biggest impact on American Indians. The number of American Indians counted in the census grew by more than 160% between 1990 and 2010, with most of the growth due to people who marked Indian and one or more additional races, rather than single-race American Indians. But other researchers have noted that the American Indian population had been growing since 1960—the first year in which most Americans could self-identify—at a pace faster than could be accounted for by births or immigration. They have cited reasons including the fading of negative stereotypes and a broadened definition on the census form that may have encouraged some Hispanics to identify as American Indian.<sup>27</sup>

## Census History of Counting Hispanics

It was not until the 1980 census that all Americans were asked whether they were Hispanic. The Hispanic question is asked separately from the race question, but the Census Bureau is now considering whether to make a recommendation to the Office of Management and Budget to combine the two.

Until 1980, **only limited attempts were made to count Hispanics**. The population was relatively small before passage of the 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act, which broadly changed U.S. policy to allow more visas for people from Latin America, Asia and other non-European regions. Refugees from Cuba and migrants from Puerto Rico also contributed to population growth.

Until 1930, Mexicans, the dominant Hispanic national origin group, had been classified as white. A “Mexican” race category was added in the 1930 census, following a rise in immigration that dated to the Mexican Revolution in 1910. But Mexican Americans (helped by the Mexican government) lobbied successfully to eliminate it in the 1940 census and revert to being classified as white, which gave them more legal rights and privileges. Some who objected to the “Mexican” category also connected it with the forced deportation of hundreds of thousands of Mexican Americans, some of them U.S. citizens, during the 1930s.<sup>28</sup>

In the 1970 census, a sample of Americans were asked whether they were of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish origin—a precursor of the universal Hispanic question implemented later. The 1980 census asked all Americans whether they were of

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<sup>27</sup> See Liebler, Carolyn, and Timothy Ortyl. 2014. “More Than One Million New American Indians in 2000: Who Are They?” *Demography*, June.

<sup>28</sup> See Nobles (2000). However, the bureau continued to research ways of estimating the size of the Mexican-American population. In the 1940 census, the bureau used data for place of birth, parents’ place of birth and mother tongue to estimate the Mexican-American population. In 1950 and 1960, the bureau developed a list of Spanish last names, which it used to classify a “Spanish surname” population in some states. For more details on the history of the Hispanic question, see Mora, G. Cristina. 2014. “Making Hispanics: How Activists, Bureaucrats, and Media Constructed a New American.” Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

“Spanish/Hispanic origin,” and listed the same national-origin categories except for “Central or South American.”<sup>29</sup> The 2000 census added the word “Latino” to the question.

The addition of the Hispanic question to census forms reflected both the population growth of Hispanics and growing pressure from Hispanic advocacy groups seeking more data on the population. The White House responded to the pressure by ordering the secretary of commerce, who oversees the Census Bureau, to add a Hispanic question in 1970. A 1976 law sponsored by Rep. Edward Roybal of California required the federal government to collect information about U.S. residents with origins in Spanish-speaking countries.<sup>30</sup> The following year, the Office of Management and Budget released a directive listing the basic racial and ethnic categories for federal statistics, including the census. “Hispanic” was among them.

The Hispanic category is described on census forms as an origin, not a race—in fact, Hispanics can be of any race. But question wording does not always fit people’s self-identity; census officials acknowledge confusion on the part of many Hispanics over the way race is categorized and asked about. Although Census Bureau officials have tinkered with wording and placement of the Hispanic question in an attempt to persuade Hispanics to mark a standard race category, many do not. In the 2010 census, 37% of Hispanics—18.5 million people—said they belonged to “some other race.” Among those who answered the race question this way in the 2010 census, 96.8% were Hispanic. And among those Hispanics who did, 44.3% indicated on the form that Mexican, Mexican American or Mexico was their race, 22.7% wrote in Hispanic or Hispano or Hispana, and 10% wrote in Latin American or Latino or Latin.<sup>31</sup>

## Possible New Combined Race-Hispanic Question

Leading up to the 1980 census, the Census Bureau tested a new approach to measuring race and ethnicity that combined standard racial classifications with Hispanic categories in one question. But at the time, the bureau didn’t seriously consider using this approach for future censuses.<sup>32</sup> That option is on the table again, however, because of concerns that many Hispanics and others have been unsure how to answer the race question on census forms.<sup>33</sup> In the 2010 census, the

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<sup>29</sup> In 1970, many residents of the south or central U.S. regions mistakenly were classified as Hispanic. See Cohn, D’Vera. 2010. “Census History: Counting Hispanics.” Washington, D.C.: Pew Research Center, March. [www.pewsocialtrends.org/2010/03/03/census-history-counting-hispanics-2/](http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2010/03/03/census-history-counting-hispanics-2/)

<sup>30</sup> See Taylor, Paul, et al. 2012. “When Labels Don’t Fit: Hispanics and Their Views of Identity.” Washington, D.C.: Pew Research Center, April. <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2012/04/04/when-labels-dont-fit-hispanics-and-their-views-of-identity/>

<sup>31</sup> See Lopez, Mark Hugo, and Jens Manuel Krogstad. 2014. “‘Mexican,’ ‘Hispanic,’ ‘Latin American’ Top List of Race Write-ins on the 2010 Census.” Washington, D.C.: Pew Research Center, April. <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/04/04/mexican-hispanic-and-latin-american-top-list-of-race-write-ins-on-the-2010-census/>

<sup>32</sup> See Mora (2014).

<sup>33</sup> See Krogstad, Jens Manuel, and D’Vera Cohn. 2014. “U.S. Census Looking at Big Changes in How It Asks About Race and Ethnicity.” Washington, D.C.: Pew Research Center, March. <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/03/14/u-s-census-looking-at-big-changes-in-how-it-asks-about-race-and-ethnicity/>

nation's third-largest racial group is Americans (as noted above, mainly Hispanics) who said their race is "some other race." The "some other race" group, intended to be a small residual category, outnumbers Asians, American Indians and Americans who report two or more races.

The Census Bureau experimented during the 2010 census with a combined race and Hispanic question asked of a sample of respondents. The test question included a write-in line where more detail could be provided. The bureau also tried different versions of the two-question format.

Census Bureau officials have cited promising results from their [Alternative Questionnaire Experiment](#). According to the results, the combined question yielded higher response rates than the two-part question on the 2010 census form, decreased the "other race" responses and did not lower the proportion of people who checked a non-white race or Hispanic origin. The white share was lower, largely because some Hispanics chose only "Hispanic" and not a race.

However, fewer people counted themselves in some specific Hispanic origin groups ("Mexican," for example) when those groups were not offered as check boxes. Some civil rights advocacy groups have expressed concern that the possible all-in-one race and Hispanic question could result in diminished data quality. According to a recent report from the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, "Civil rights advocates are cautiously optimistic about the possibility of more accurate data on the Latino population from revised 2020 census race and ethnicity question(s), but they remain concerned about the possible loss of race data through a combined race and Hispanic origin question, the diminished accuracy of detailed Hispanic subgroup data, and the ability to compare data over time to monitor trends."<sup>34</sup>

The bureau is continuing to experiment with the combined question, with plans to test it on the Current Population Survey this year and on the American Community Survey in 2016. Any questionnaire changes would need approval from the Office of Management and Budget, which specifies the race and ethnicity categories on federal surveys. Congress also will review the questions the Census Bureau asks, and can recommend changes. The Census Bureau must submit topic areas for the 2020 census to Congress by 2017 and actual question wording by 2018.

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<sup>34</sup> See The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights. 2014. Chapter III of "Race and Ethnicity in the 2020 Census: Improving Data to Capture a Multiethnic America." Washington, D.C.: November. <http://www.civilrights.org/publications/reports/census-report-2014/chapter-iii-revising-the.html>

## Census Data on Multiracial Americans

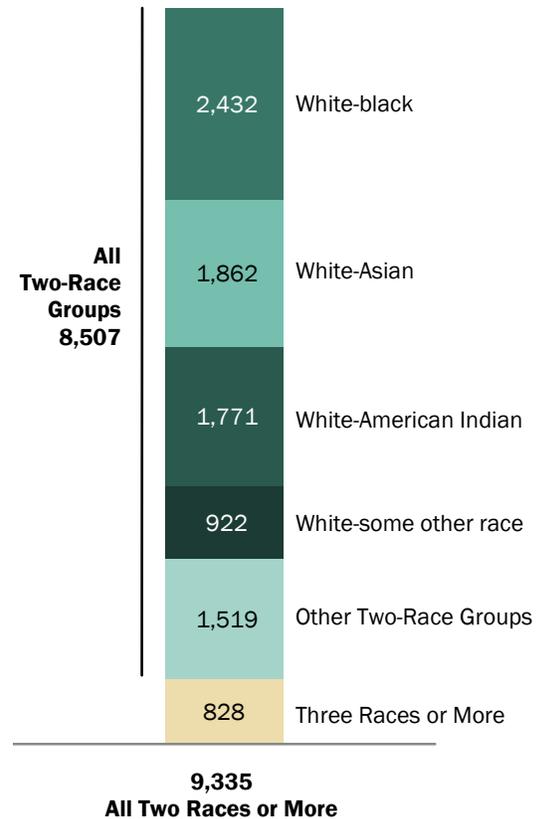
Based on the Census Bureau's American Community Survey, the nation's multiracial population stood at 9.3 million in 2013, or 3% of the population. This number is based on the current census racial identification question and comprises 5 million adults and 4.3 million children. Among all multiracial Americans, the median age is 19, compared with 38 for single-race Americans.

The four largest multiracial groups, in order of size, are those who report being white and black (2.4 million), white and Asian (1.9 million), white and American Indian (1.8 million) and white and "some other race" (922,000).<sup>35</sup> White and black Americans are the youngest of these groups, with a median age of only 13. Those who are white and American Indian have the oldest median age, 31. These four groups account for three-quarters of multiracial Americans.

The four largest multiracial groups are the same for both adults and children, but they rank in different order. Among multiracial adults, the largest group is white and American Indian (1.3 million). That is followed by white and Asian (921,000) and white and black (900,000). Those who are white and "some other race" number 539,000. Fully 25% of multiracial adults in 2013 also said they were Hispanic, compared with 15% of single-race adults.

### Census Data Say There Are 9.3 Million U.S. Multiracial Adults and Children

*In thousands*



Note: Two-race groups shown are the four largest ones. American Indian category includes Alaska Natives. Totals calculated before rounding. All subgroups include Hispanics.

Source: Pew Research Center analysis of the 2013 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS)

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<sup>35</sup> In this analysis, all multiracial subgroups include Hispanics.

Among Americans younger than 18, the groups rank in the same order as for multiracial Americans overall: white and black (1.5 million), white and Asian (941,000), white and American Indian (518,000) and white and “some other race” (383,000).

The nation’s overall multiracial population tilts young. Americans younger than 18 accounted for 23% of the total population in 2013, but they were 46% of the multiracial population. The younger the age group, the higher its share of multiracial Americans. Of those younger than 18, 6% are of more than one race, compared with about 1% of Americans age 65 and older. Among all adults, 2.1% are of more than one race. (In filling out census forms, parents report both their own race and that of their children.)

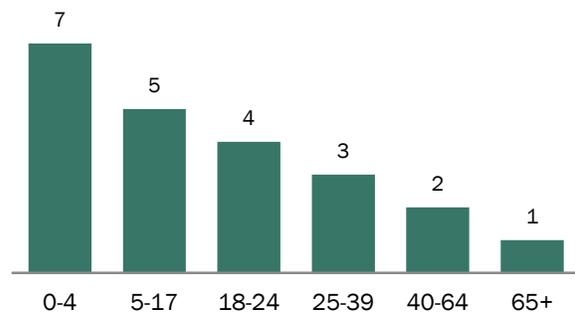
A more detailed analysis of the demographic characteristics of adults with multiracial backgrounds, based on the Pew Research survey, appears in Chapter 2.

### Trends in Two-Race Ancestry

Another way to analyze the multiracial population in the U.S. involves responses to the census question about ancestry or ethnic origin. Because Americans have been asked about their ancestry since 1980, their responses provide more than three decades of data on change in the size of the U.S. population with two races in their background. By comparison, data on multiracial Americans from the race question have been available only since 2000, when people were first allowed to identify themselves as being of more than one race.

### In Census Data, Younger Americans Are Most Likely to Be Multiracial

*% of each age group in 2013 reported as two or more races*



Source: Pew Research Center analysis of 2013 American Community Survey Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (1% IPUMS)

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### American Community Survey Ancestry Question

**13** What is this person's ancestry or ethnic origin?

(For example: Italian, Jamaican, African Am., Cambodian, Cape Verdean, Norwegian, Dominican, French Canadian, Haitian, Korean, Lebanese, Polish, Nigerian, Mexican, Taiwanese, Ukrainian, and so on.)

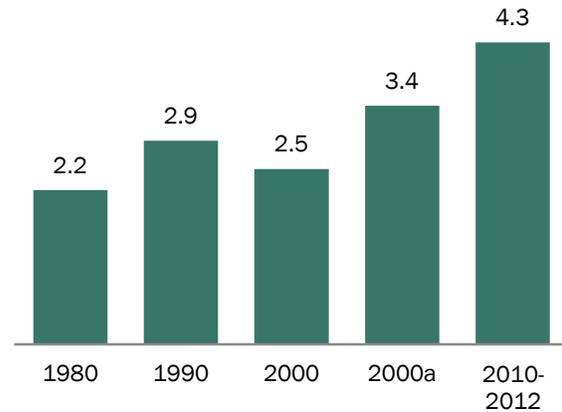
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

This analysis is based on Americans of all ages, not just adults. The Census Bureau reports up to two ancestry responses per person, most of which a Pew Research Center analysis matched to standard racial categories reflecting the dominant race in a given country of origin. For example, people in the 2010-2012 American Community Surveys who said they have ancestral roots in Germany would be classified as white, because over 99% of people of German ancestry said they were white when answering the race question on that same survey.<sup>36</sup> Using this method yields a larger estimate of the U.S. two-race population than is obtained from using responses to the race question: 13.5 million compared with 7.9 million in the 2010-2012 American Community Survey.<sup>37</sup>

The analysis indicates that the U.S. population of two-race ancestry has more than doubled in size, from about 5.1 million in 1980 to 13.5 million in 2012. The share of the U.S. population with two-race ancestry has nearly doubled, from 2.2% in 1980 to 4.3% in 2010-2012. By comparison, the total U.S. population has grown by a little more than a third over the same period.

## Census Data Show Share of Americans with Two-Race Ancestry Nearly Doubled Since 1980

*% of total population*



Note: Question wording asked about “ancestry” in 1980 and “ancestry or ethnic origin” in other years. The label “2000” shows data from the 2000 census and “2000a” from the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey. See Appendix B for more detail.

Source: Pew Research Center analysis of U.S. decennial census data 1980-2000, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey and 2010-2012 American Community Survey 3-year file (IPUMS)

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<sup>36</sup> Using this method, some individuals will be assigned to the wrong racial category, if they happen to be part of the very small minority of people with that ancestry who are not part of the dominant racial group. In addition, most of those reporting American Indian ancestries were classified as American Indian and Alaska Native, even though those respondents were more likely to choose white than American Indian on the race question. The assignment was made in order to have adequate sample size for analysis.

<sup>37</sup> The total multiracial population using the race responses in 2012, including people with more than two races, was 9.0 million.

## Chapter 2: Counting Multiracial Americans

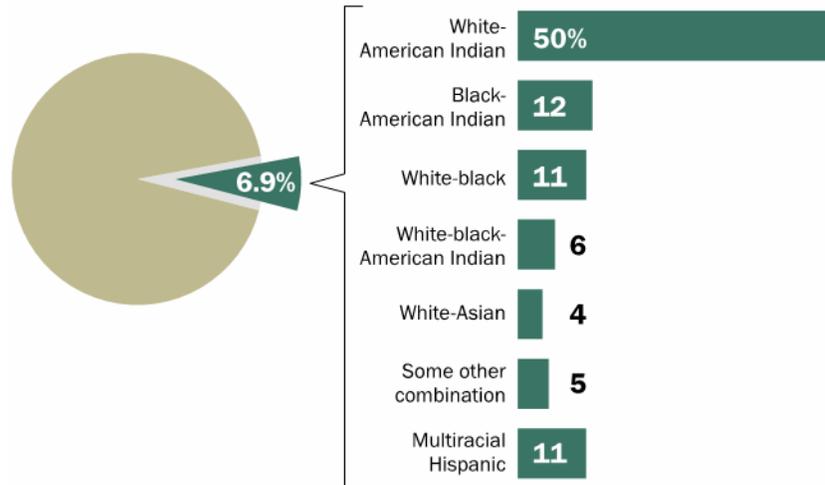
Despite significant growth over recent decades, multiracial Americans currently make up a relatively small share of the general public. But a new Pew Research Center survey finds that the mixed-race adult population could be as much as three times what current government estimates suggest.

Using a different method than the U.S. Census Bureau, taking into account the races reported by adults, along with the races they report for their parents and grandparents, the Pew Research survey finds that 6.9% of Americans 18 or older have a multiracial background. That compares with the 2.1% of adult Americans who said they were two or more races in the Census Bureau's 2013 American Community Survey.

The Pew Research survey also finds that biracial adults with a white and American Indian background comprise half of the country's multiracial population.<sup>38</sup> Black and American Indian biracial adults account for an additional 12%, while those with a white and black background make up 11%. Those with white, black and American Indian in their racial background make up 6% of the total mixed-race population, and white and Asian biracial adults account for an additional 4%.

### White and American Indian Biracial Adults Are the Largest Multiracial Group

Percentage of all U.S. adults who have at least two races in their background (based on races of self, parents or grandparents)



Note: Multiracial adults are of two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Multiracial subgroups and "Some other combination" are non-Hispanic and mutually exclusive. The multiracial Hispanic subgroup includes Hispanics who are also any two or more races. Multiracial subgroups may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=21,224 sampled adults including 1,555 multiracial adults)

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R1-4

<sup>38</sup> Unless otherwise noted, multiracial subgroups do not include Hispanics.

One-in-ten mixed-race adults (11%) are Hispanic and two other races, and the remaining shares are scattered across the 16 other combinations of non-Hispanic multiracial backgrounds represented in a nationally representative sample of 21,224 adults, including 1,555 multiracial Americans.

## Determining Multiracial Background

To estimate the share of Americans who are multiracial, Pew Research Center researchers used a new approach to measure an individual's racial background. In addition to asking individuals their race or races, the questionnaire asked a series of follow-up questions about the racial backgrounds of respondents' biological parents, grandparents and earlier ancestors.

The series began with a version of a question asked by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2010 to test alternate ways of measuring racial background. It asked respondents, "What is your race or origin?" and allowed them to choose as many categories as they wished. Hispanic origin was included in the list, which otherwise consisted of racial categories. (See Appendix A for a complete description of the methodology used in the survey.)

Overall 1.4% of the 21,224 study participants reported they were two or more races in response to the initial question asking about their racial background. This estimate, based on the initial question is comparable to the 2.1% estimate for adults from the Census Bureau's 2013 American Community Survey, the latest data available.

The Census Bureau's figure may be higher in part because it considers people to be multiracial if they give a single race along with "some other race"—many of which were write-in Hispanic origins, such as "Mexican." For Hispanics to be counted as mixed race in the Pew Research estimate, they had to choose Hispanic plus two other races (not including "some other race") for themselves, their parents or their grandparents. (See Chapter 7 for a more detailed discussion of multiracial Hispanics, including an expanded estimate of the multiracial population that includes those who are Hispanic and one race but also consider their Hispanicity to be part of their racial background.)

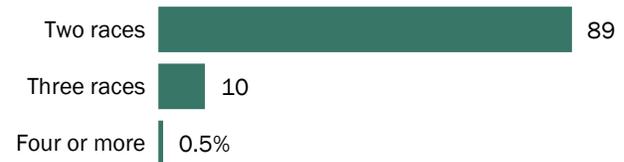
Respondents were then asked about the racial background of their biological mother and father. Adults who said that at least one of their parents was a different race from them or was more than one race were classified as having a mixed racial background. And when they were added to the initial 1.4% who said they themselves were more than one race, the share of multiracial Americans increased to 4.3% of all adults. When the backgrounds of respondents' biological grandparents were factored in, the share rose to 6.9%.

When the racial backgrounds of great-grandparents and earlier biological ancestors were considered, the proportion of adults who could be considered multiracial nearly doubled to 13.1%. However, those who choose a single race for themselves, their parents and their grandparents but say they had a more distant relative of a different race are not included in the analysis of the Pew Research survey results. About nine-in-ten of this group (87%) do not identify as mixed race or multiracial when asked, “Do you consider yourself to be mixed race or multiracial, that is more than one race, or not?”<sup>39</sup> The survey findings also suggest that a significant share in this group do not consider themselves multiracial because they have never met their relative who was of a different race.

The survey also finds that about nine-in-ten multiracial adults (89%) are biracial. An additional 10% have three races in their background, while 0.5% have four or more.

### Most Multiracial Adults Are Biracial

% of mixed-race adults who are ...



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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R1-4

*“My racial background is very important to my overall identity. ... There’s not a day that goes by that I’m not thinking about race, thinking about being black and white, black or white, thinking about all of it.”*

*- Black and white biracial woman, age 31*

\*The quotes presented throughout this report come from a series of interviews conducted to create short videos about the multiracial experience in America [[www.pewresearch.org/multiracial-voices/](http://www.pewresearch.org/multiracial-voices/)]. Participants all had parents with different racial or ethnic backgrounds.

<sup>39</sup> For Hispanics, the question included the language: “...such as mestizo, mulatto or some other mixed race.” See Chapters 3 and 7 for more analysis of this question.

## Mixed Racial Background, but Not Multiracial

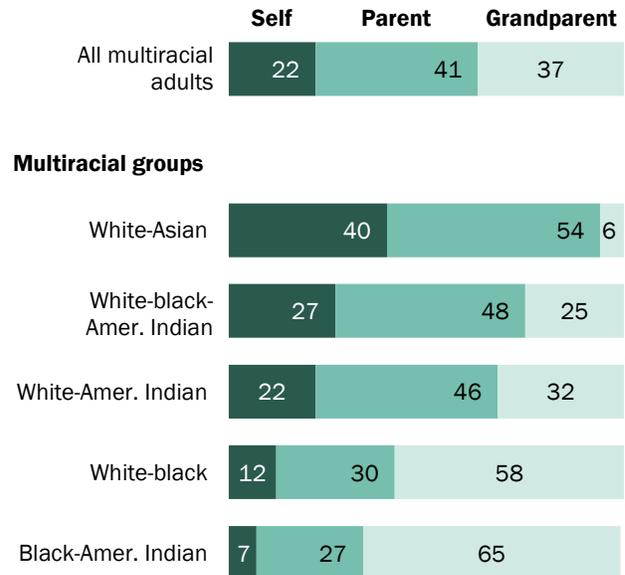
Further analysis of these results yielded one of the major findings of this study: An overwhelming majority of Americans whose reported family tree indicates a mixed racial background do not choose more than one race to describe their own race or origin.

According to the survey, only 22% of adults with a mixed racial background (going back to their grandparents' origins) report that they are two or more races when asked to describe their own race or origin.<sup>40</sup> About three-quarters of those identified as having a multiracial background report they are only one race (74%) or report no races for themselves (4%),<sup>41</sup> but in response to later questions say one or more biological parents or grandparents was a different race or had a mixed racial background. Specifically, four-in-ten (41%) say they are a single race or didn't give a race for themselves but have a parent with a different racial background than their own or a mixed-race background. Nearly as many (37%) give a single race or no races for themselves and their parents but have a grandparent of a different or a mixed racial background.

**Biracial adults with a white and Asian background (40%) are significantly more likely than biracial adults who are black and American Indian (7%), white and black (12%), or white and American Indian (22%) to name two races for themselves when asked about their race or origin.**

### Multiracial Background More Distant for Some Groups than Others

*% of each multiracial group who are counted as mixed race because of the racial background of ...*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Multiracial adults are two or more races. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. See Appendix A for a detailed description of self, parent and grandparent.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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R1-4

<sup>40</sup> This finding is echoed in an attitudinal question that asks whether people consider themselves mixed race or multiracial. For a detailed discussion of this, see Chapter 3.

<sup>41</sup> Among those who report no races for themselves are those who say they are "some other race or origin," "Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin" only with no racial category chosen or refused to provide their own race or origin.

Overall, fully 94% of all white and Asian biracial Americans either report having two races in their background or enter the multiracial population as a result of the races of their parents. Only 6% identify themselves and their parents as the same race but have a grandparent with a different racial background, the smallest proportion of any of the major groups to do so.

By contrast, only 7% of all black and American Indian biracial adults self-report two races, while 92% say they are single-race blacks. For about two-thirds (65%) of this group, the link to a mixed-race heritage comes from one or more grandparents who had a different racial background; in most cases the grandparents accounted for the American Indian portion of their background.

### The Demographics of Multiracial Americans

In key ways, multiracial Americans are different from the country population as a whole.

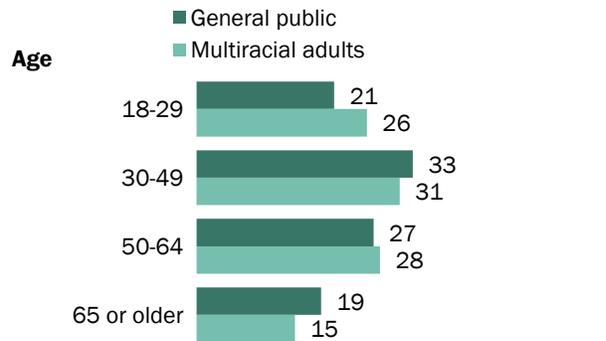
Multiracial Americans are younger, less likely to be college graduates and less likely to be currently married.

But on other measures, multiracial adults look very much like other Americans. Mixed-race adults are equally likely to be employed or attend religious services. And multiracial Americans as a group are just as likely as other adults to have children or live in a city, suburb or rural area.

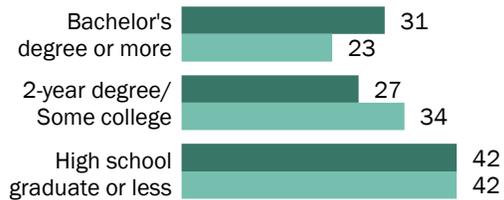
Roughly a quarter (26%) of multiracial adults sampled for the Pew Research survey are

### Multiracial Adults Younger, Less Likely to Be College Graduates

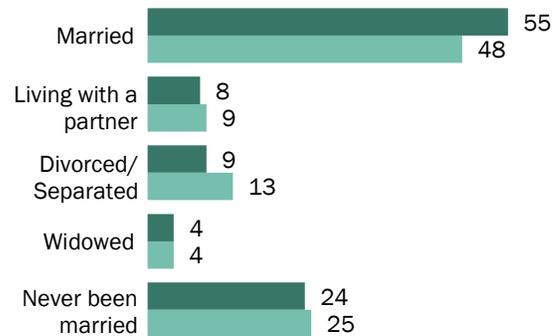
% of the general public and multiracial adults who are ...



### Educational attainment (ages 25 and older)



### Marital status



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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younger than 30, compared with 21% of all adults surveyed. Mixed-race Americans also are somewhat less likely than others to be 65 or older (15% vs. 19%).

Some 48% of the multiracial adults surveyed are currently married, compared with 55% among all the adults who were surveyed. At the same time, mixed-race Americans are slightly more likely to be divorced or separated (13% vs. 9%).

On one key measure of economic well-being, multiracial adults lag slightly behind all adults—a smaller share are college graduates (23% vs. 31% among those ages 25 or older). However, a larger proportion of multiracial adults have completed at least a year of college (34% vs. 27%). An identical share (42%) of multiracial adults and the general public are high school graduates or have less education.

## **Gender**

In the Pew Research study, women outnumber men by a ratio of 61% to 39% in the adult multiracial population, significantly different than the share of women in the country as a whole (52%).

The gender disparity in the Pew Research sample is due in part to the large gender imbalance among mixed-race blacks. Among all non-Hispanic multiracial black adults in the Pew Research sample, about seven-in-ten (69%) are women (58% among those who give more than one race for themselves and 71% among those who are multiracial through the racial backgrounds of their parents or grandparents).

Other national surveys have also found a large gender skew in the multiracial black population and the black population overall. In a 2014 Pew Research survey of more than 10,000 adults nationally, 61% of mixed-race non-Hispanic blacks (defined as the share reporting two or more races for their own race) and 55% of all non-Hispanic blacks were women. Women also comprise a disproportionately large share of the overall black population according to the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey (CPS). In the latest available CPS data, non-Hispanic black women outnumber black men 55% to 45% among adults 18 and older.

Further analysis of the Pew Research multiracial survey finds that the large concentration of women, especially among multiracial black adults, did not alter the survey findings, as black men and women generally share many of the attitudes and experiences that were measured in the survey.

## America's Largest Multiracial Groups

From the five races currently recognized by the U.S. Census Bureau—white, black or African American, Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander—spring dozens of possible combinations of two or more races.

But the Pew Research Center survey finds that only five of those potential combinations—four non-Hispanic biracial groups and one group with three races—constitute more than 80% of the multiracial population. An additional 11% of the multiracial population consists of Hispanics who are any combination of two or more races (including 4.9% who are Hispanic, white and American Indian).

According to the survey, half of all adults with a multiracial background are white and American Indian (with no Hispanic background).<sup>42</sup> The second-largest mixed-race group is black and American Indian (12%). Non-Hispanic white and black biracial adults make up 11% of the multiracial population.

Smaller shares are adults who report their background as white, black and American Indian with no Hispanic origin (6% of the mixed-race population) or white and Asian (4%). The remainder is some other non-Hispanic combination (5%) or Hispanic and two or more races (11%).

### Comparisons with Census Estimates

The methods used by Pew Research for measuring an individual's racial background differ from those used by the Census Bureau. These different methods produce different estimates of the size of the multiracial population and specific mixed-race groups, the Pew Research study finds.

Estimates of the size of the multiracial population in the Pew Research study are based on the racial background of the individual, as well as the races of his or her parents and grandparents.

Census estimates reported in this study are largely based on the 2013 American Community Survey (ACS), which asks respondents only about their own racial and ethnic background, not that of their parents or grandparents.

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<sup>42</sup> Unless otherwise noted, the multiracial subgroups discussed here are non-Hispanic.

Biracial adults with a white and American Indian background are the single largest mixed-race group of adults in the 2013 ACS and the Pew Research survey.<sup>43</sup> But the relative size of this group differs significantly.

In the 2013 ACS, adults 18 and older who said they were non-Hispanic white and American Indian accounted for 25% of the mixed-race population compared with half in the Pew Research survey.<sup>44</sup>

What explains the differences? Beyond the different ways that the ACS and Pew Research surveys measured race, these data do not provide a definitive answer. But they do point to one possible contributing source: the faint ties that many of those who claim an American Indian background have to that part of their family heritage.

As noted elsewhere in this report, white and American Indian biracial adults are among the least likely of any group to identify as multiracial (25% vs. 70% among white and Asian biracial adults, for example). Only 22% say they have a lot in common with American Indians, while 61% say they have a lot in common with whites.

In fact, about six-in-ten (62%) of those with a white and Native American mixed-race background report their race as only as white when they are first asked their own race or origin; for this group, their family link to an American Indian relative comes through a parent or grandparent.

These results suggest that many in this group who do not give a multiracial race response for themselves may report their race as white in official government forms—a reflection of their racial identity but not necessarily their actual racial background or ancestry. But many of these same adults likely will report also having an American Indian racial identity in an anonymous online survey such as the one conducted by the Pew Research Center.

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<sup>43</sup> Census Bureau estimates include adults who give one of the five racial categories and “Some Other Race” as multiracial. This comparison excludes biracial adults for whom “Some Other Race” is one of their reported races.

<sup>44</sup> Among adults who give two or more races for themselves (rather than through the combined racial backgrounds of themselves and their parents or grandparents), 51% report a non-Hispanic white and American Indian background. This group is more comparable to the multiracial group included in the ACS analysis.

## Chapter 3: The Multiracial Identity Gap

Multiracial identity is not just the sum of the races on someone's family tree. It's more complicated than that.

How you were raised, how you see yourself and how the world sees you have a profound effect in shaping multiracial identity, the survey finds. For many mixed-race Americans, these powerful influences may be as important as racial background in shaping their racial identity.

In fact, when asked, "Do you consider yourself to be mixed race or multiracial, that is, more than one race, or not?," a substantial majority of Americans with a background that includes more than one race (61%) say that they do not consider themselves to be multiracial.<sup>45</sup>

When asked *why* they don't identify as multiracial, about half (47%) say it is because they look like one race. An identical proportion say they were raised as one race, while about four-in-ten (39%) say they closely identify with a single race. And about a third (34%) say they never knew the family member or ancestor who was a different race. (Individuals were allowed to select multiple reasons.)

This multiracial "identity gap" plays out in distinctly different ways in different mixed-race groups.

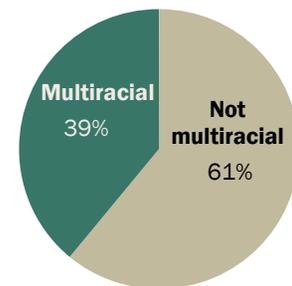
A quarter of biracial adults with a white and American Indian background say they consider themselves multiracial, for example.

By contrast, seven-in-ten white and Asian biracial adults and 61% of those with a white and black background say they identify as multiracial. Multiracial adults with a white, black and American Indian racial background (50%) or a black and

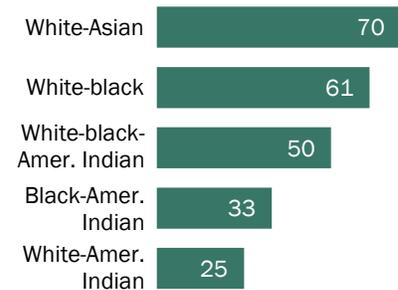
### The Multiracial "Identity Gap"

Q: "Do you consider yourself to be mixed race or multiracial, that is, more than one race, or not?"

(% among adults with a background including two or more races)



% of adults with each mixed racial background who consider themselves "multiracial"



Note: Based on adults with two or more races in the backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Multiracial subgroups are non-Hispanic and mutually exclusive.

Sample sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian, 106 white-black-Amer. Indian. Question wording included "mestizo, mulatto or some other mixed race" for adults who selected a Hispanic origin for themselves. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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<sup>45</sup> For respondents who selected Hispanic origin for their own race or origin, the question read: "Do you consider yourself to be mixed race or multiracial, that is, more than one race, such as mestizo, mulatto or some other mixed race, or not?"

American Indian biracial background (33%) fall between these groups in terms of the share who say they identify as multiracial. Among Hispanics who count two or more races in their background, about six-in-ten (62%) say they consider themselves to be multiracial.

The survey also finds that the way in which people describe their own racial background doesn't always match the way they believe others see them. About nine-in-ten white and American Indian biracial adults (88%) believe that a stranger passing them on the street would say they were single-race white; only 2% say they would be seen as multiracial and 7% as American Indian only.

By contrast, six-in-ten Americans with a white and black background (61%) believe they are seen as black; only 19% say they would be seen as multiracial (an additional 7% say they would be perceived as white only). Among white and Asian biracial adults, 42% say others would perceive them as white and 23% think others see them as Asian. Two-in-ten say they would be seen as multiracial.

Measuring multiracial identity is complicated for other reasons. Many mixed-race Americans say that over the course of their lifetimes they have changed how they viewed their racial identity. According to the survey, about three-in-ten mixed-race adults (29%) who now report more than one race for themselves say they used to see themselves as just one race. But among those who did not report more than one race for themselves in this survey—but instead are included in the multiracial group because of the races they reported for their parents or grandparents—an identical share have switched their racial identity: 29% say they once saw themselves as more than one race but now see themselves as one race.

The survey also shows multiracial adults sometimes feel pressure to identify as a single race. About one-in-five mixed-race adults (21%) say they have been pressured by friends, family members or “society in general” to identify as a single race.

The remainder of this chapter examines in more detail the multiracial identity gap and how physical appearance, personal values, societal pressures and other factors help shape an individual's racial identity.

*“Sometimes I identify as white because it's easy. ... Sometimes I just get tired of explaining who I am, and sometimes I just don't care to. I also recognize that since I look white I sometimes identify that way because I know that's what they think.”*

*-White and American Indian biracial woman, age 27*

## A Mixed Racial Background, but Not Multiracial

Only about four-in-ten adults (39%) with a background including more than one race consider themselves to be multiracial, while the majority of these adults (61%) do not.

Among adults with multiple races in their background who do not consider themselves to be multiracial, about half say their physical appearance (47%) and/or family upbringing (47%)—nature and nurture—are among the reasons that they do not identify as multiracial. Some 39% say they closely identify with one race, and about a third (34%) say they never knew their family member or ancestor who was a different race.

An additional 13% give some other reason for not identifying as multiracial, including 4% who say their racial background is unimportant to them, 2% who say the family member of a different race is too many generations removed and 2% who simply don't identify with their multiracial heritage.

## Fading Multicultural Identity

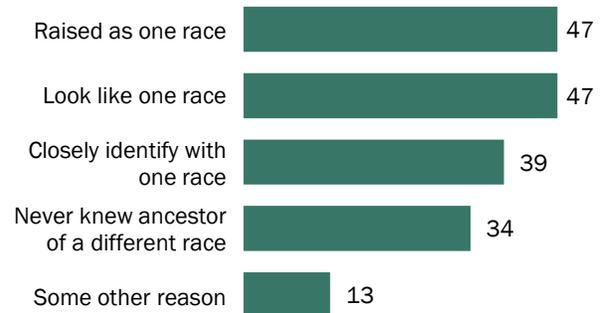
The survey finds that multiracial identity quickly fades with the generations. Among those whose ties to a mixed racial background come from a great-grandparent or earlier ancestor—a group that is not included among the analysis of multiracial Americans throughout this report—only 13% consider themselves to be multiracial. The share roughly doubles (to 28%) if a grandparent had a racial background that was different from that of the respondent and his or her parents, and it rises to 35% if one or both parents had a different racial background than the respondent.

*"I identify with the African-American culture more. One because I just look it. When an average person is walking down the street, they just see a guy who is colored. A man of color. Brown."*

*-Black and Asian biracial man, age 47*

### Top Reasons that a Majority of Mixed-Race Adults Don't Identify as Multiracial

*Among adults with a background including two or more races who do not consider themselves "multiracial," the % saying each is a reason that they do not do so*



Note: Based on adults with two or more races in the backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Respondents were allowed to select more than one reason.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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Among those who report that they themselves are two or more races, about six-in-ten (63%) identify as multiracial. But even for this group, roughly a third (36%) do not consider themselves mixed race.

And it is among this group, the 36% who self-report that they are two or more races but don't consider themselves multiracial, that the power of physical appearance to shape racial identity comes into focus. Among these mixed-race Americans, the proportion who say they do not identify as multiracial because they "look like one race" increases from 47% (among all multiple-race adults who do not consider themselves multiracial) to 64%. About half (54%) of this group says the reason is that they were raised as only one race, while somewhat fewer (45%) say they closely identify as only one race. A third (33%) say they don't identify as mixed race because they never knew their ancestor of a different race.

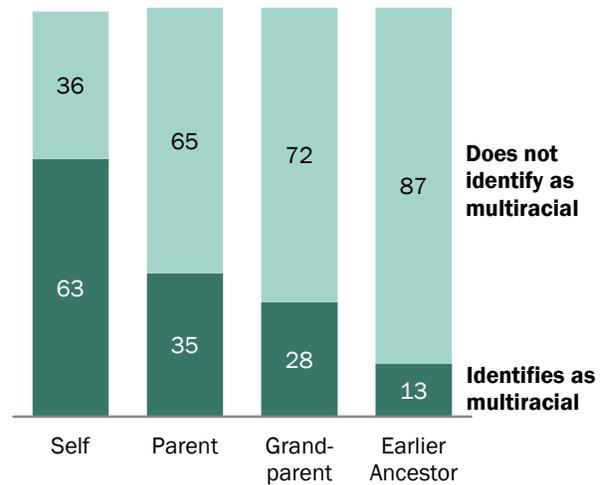
## How Biracial Adults Think Others See Them

How do multiracial adults believe strangers passing them on the street see their racial background? The answer to that question varies substantially by mixed-race group. But one common thread runs through these responses: Few say they are viewed as multiracial.

According to the survey, only 9% of all multiracial adults believe they are perceived as a mix of races by others.

## Multiracial Identity Fades over the Generations

*% who do or do not consider themselves "multiracial" based on whether their background including two or more races is reported through self, parent, grandparent or ancestor*



**Self** – Report more than one race for themselves.

**Parent** – Do not report more than one race for themselves, but have a multiracial background when all the races of themselves and their parents are counted.

**Grandparent** – Do not report more than one race for themselves and their parents, but have a multiracial background when all the races of themselves, their parents and grandparents are counted.

**Earlier ancestor** – Do not report more than one race when all the races for themselves, their parents and grandparents are counted, but report an earlier ancestor with a different race or a multiracial background. Unless otherwise noted, this group is not included in the analysis of multiracial adults and may be included among the analysis of single-race whites, blacks and Asians.

Note: Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,820 adults who report two or more races through self, parent, grandparent or earlier ancestor)

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Among biracial adults who are white and black, 61% say they are perceived by strangers to be black. Only 19% say they are seen as multiracial, and even smaller shares say they are seen as single-race whites (7%). About one-in-ten (9%) of non-Hispanic white and black biracial adults say others would think they are Hispanic, and 3% say others would think they are American Indian.

A virtually identical pattern appears among black and American Indian biracial adults. Among this group, roughly eight-in-ten (84%) say strangers would identify them as single-race black (6% say they would be seen as multiracial). And about six-in-ten white, black and American Indian multiracial adults (62%) also say others perceive them to be black (with 20% saying they would be seen as multiracial).

A significantly different pattern emerges among white and Asian biracial adults. Only about a quarter of this group (23%) says they are viewed as Asian, while 42% believe they are perceived as white. One-in-five white and Asian biracial adults say they are seen as having a multiracial background.

The overwhelming majority of white and American Indian biracial adults (88%) say they are seen as white. Only 2% say they are thought to be multiracial, and 7% believe they are seen as Native American. Even among those who consider themselves to be multiracial, eight-in-ten say they are perceived as white by others.

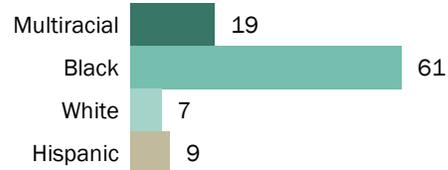
Among Hispanics who are more than one race, about a quarter (24%) say that a stranger would see them as Latino while 17% believe they would be viewed as multiracial.

## Most Biracial White and Black Adults Say They are Seen by Others as Black

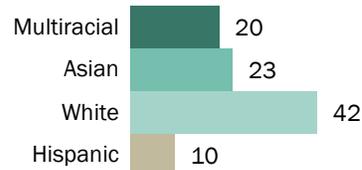
*% saying most people would describe them as ... if they walked past them on the street*

Among biracial adults who are ...

### White-black



### White-Asian



### White-American Indian



Note: Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Sample sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian. Some responses not showing (ex: 3% of white-Asian biracial adults said they are seen as Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

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Q19

*“It’s often funny and interesting to see people’s reactions when I do tell them that I’m actually half Japanese. ‘Oh, really?. ... I guess I can see it. Your cheekbones or maybe a little bit in your eyes.’ But most people, say 8 out of 10, don’t see it at all.”*

*-White and Asian biracial woman, age 43*

## Attempts to Influence How Others See Their Appearance

At some point in their lives, about one-in-five multiracial adults (21%) have dressed or behaved in a certain way in order to influence how others saw their race.

According to the survey, about one-in-ten multiracial adults have talked (12%), dressed (11%) or worn their hair (11%) in a certain way in order to affect how others saw their race.

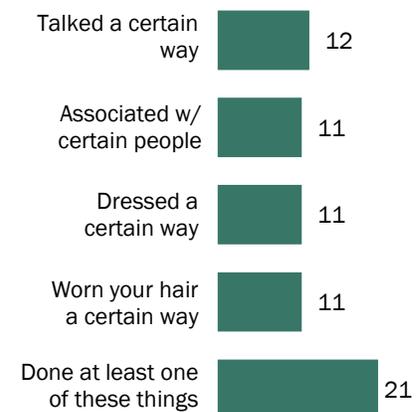
A similar share (11%) say they associated with certain people to alter how others saw their racial identity. (The survey did not ask respondents to identify which race or races they sought to resemble.)

Efforts to affect perceptions by looking or behaving in a certain way varied widely across the largest multiracial groups.

About four-in-ten (42%) black and American Indian biracial adults say they have presented themselves in a certain way in order to affect how others saw their race. A third of all adults with a white, black and American Indian background and about the same share (34%) of multiracial Hispanics also say they have made an effort to change the way people see their race.

## Attempts to Change How Others See Their Race

*% of multiracial adults saying they have done each to influence how others saw their race*



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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Q29a-d

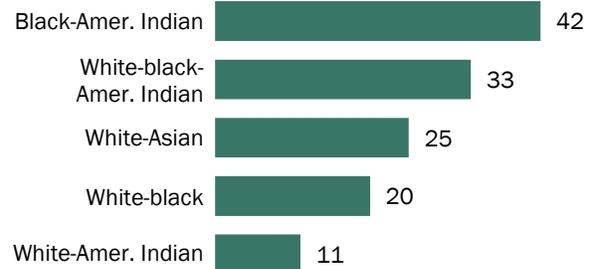
A quarter of white and Asian biracial adults and one-in-five white and black biracial respondents say that, at some point, they have tried to look or behave a certain way to influence how people thought about their race. Among the largest biracial subgroup—white and American Indian adults—only about one-in-ten (11%) say they have done this.

The survey also found that few multiracial adults have attempted to recast their racial identity to gain advantage when applying for college or scholarships.

Overall, only 5% of all mixed-race adults who have at least some college education say they have described their racial background differently than they usually would to get into college or qualify for a scholarship, including 13% of multiracial adults with an Asian background, 6% of black multiracial adults and 5% of mixed-race whites. (The survey did not ask how they described their identity differently.)

### Some Mixed-Race Groups More Likely than Others to Try to Change How People See Them

*% of each multiracial group who have done at least one of four things to influence how people saw their race*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Sample sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Respondents were asked if they had done these things to try to influence how others see their race: talked, dressed or worn their hair in a certain way, or associated with certain people.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

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Q29a-d

*“Growing up I remember wanting to get a relaxer for my hair. Even as a guy, I wanted my hair when it got wet to sort of fall down or have spikes. I wanted to dress a certain way because I wanted to embrace what I thought was ... a white identity.”*

*-White and black biracial man, age 25*

## Pressure to Identify as One Race

About one-in-five multiracial adults (21%) say they have felt pressure from friends, family or from society in general to choose one of the races in their background over another.

Multiracial adults feel the heat to identify as just one race more from “society in general” (15%) than from family members (11%) or friends (9%). (The survey did not ask respondents with which race they felt pressured to identify.)

Multiracial adults with a black background are among the most likely to say they have felt pressure to identify as single race from at least one of the three sources tested in the survey. About three-in-ten biracial adults who are white and black (30%) or black and American Indian (28%) fall into this category.

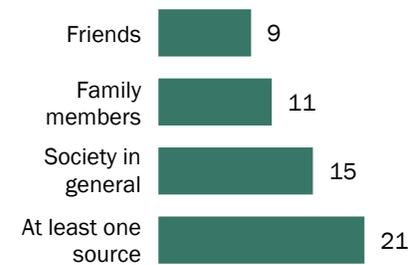
Roughly three-in-ten multiracial Hispanics (31%) and about two-in-ten adults with a white, black and American Indian racial background (23%) or a biracial white and Asian background (21%) also felt pressured. Some 15% of white and American Indian biracial adults felt pressed to say they are one race. The pressure to identify with a single race is particularly felt by those who believe they physically look like a mix of races and not like just one race. According to the survey, about a third (34%) of all mixed-race adults who say a passerby would identify them as multiracial also say they have felt pressure to identify as one race. By contrast, some 20% of those who believe that a stranger would identify them as single race or as Hispanic only say they have felt similar pressure.

## Changes in Identity over the Life Course

An individual’s racial background is fixed at birth but his or her racial identity can change over the course of a lifetime, the Pew Research survey found.

### 1-in-5 Have Felt Pressured to Identify as One Race

*% of multiracial adults saying they felt pressure to identify as a single race from ...*



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents).

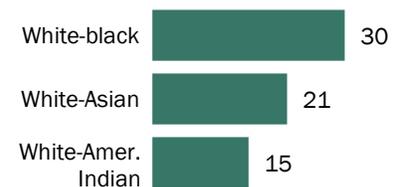
Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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Q21a-c

### Pressure to Identify as One Race, by Biracial Groups

*% of each group who say they felt pressure to identify as a single race from friends, family or society in general*



Note: Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Sample sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q21a-c

About three-in-ten adults (29%) who now think of themselves as more than one race say they once thought of themselves as only one race. An identical share moved the opposite way: 29% of those who have a mixed racial background but see themselves as only one race say they used to think of themselves as more than one race.

## Multiracial Background and Personal Identity

Multiracial adults and the general public generally define who they are around the same set of core characteristics and values, and they give the same relative importance to their racial background. About half of all Americans (51%) say their gender is “essential” to their personal identity, and virtually the same proportion of multiracial adults agrees (50%). Identical proportions (39%) of mixed-race Americans and the country as a whole say their religion is an essential part of who they are. About a quarter of both groups also say their racial background and their family ancestry are extremely important elements of their personal identity, while about one-in-five of both groups rate their occupation as essential to their personal identity.

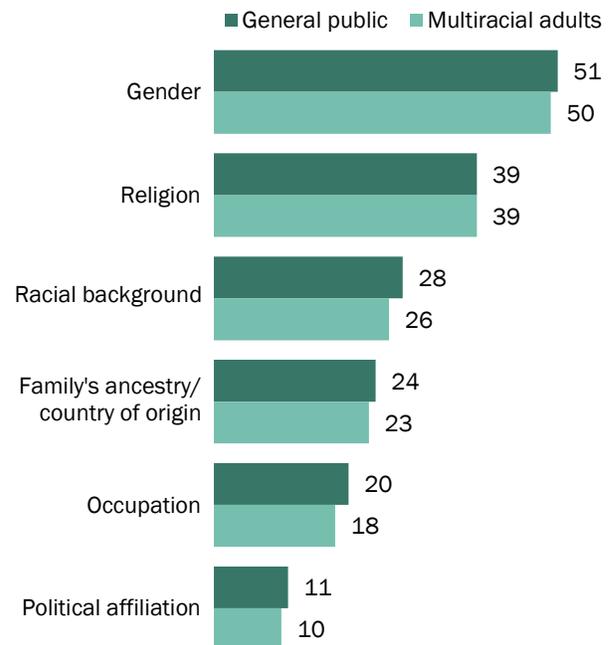
Multiracial adults and other Americans even agree on the least important of the six characteristics tested in the survey. Only about one-in-ten multiracial adults (10%) and adults in the general public (11%) consider political affiliation to be a core part of their identity.

*“There was a time when I didn’t identify as black. In fact, growing up I really hung onto this idea that I was biracial. ... It wasn’t ’til college that I made that switch from identifying as biracial to being black.”*

*-White and black biracial man, age 25*

### Constructing Personal Identity

% of each group who say each characteristic is “essential” to their personal identity



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q8a-f

With a few notable exceptions, similar proportions among the five largest multiracial groups and mixed-race Hispanics say these traits and characteristics are essential to their sense of self.

Large differences emerged on the relative value that black, white and Asian mixed-race groups placed on their race as well as their family origin in determining their personal identity.

Overall, multiracial blacks are generally more likely than other mixed-race groups to see their racial background and family ancestry or country of origin as important parts of their personal identity.

For example, fully 57% of white, black and American Indian multiracial adults say their racial background is essential to their sense of personal identity, roughly three times the share of white and Native American biracial adults (20%) who express this view.

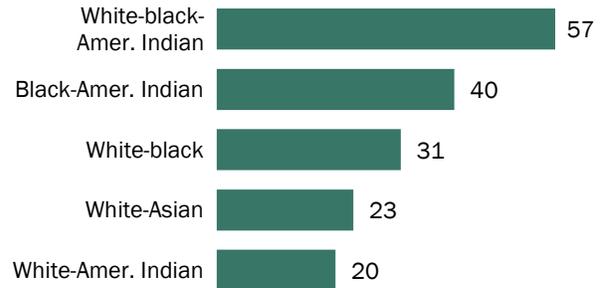
Four-in-ten black and American Indian biracial adults say race is an extremely important part of who they are, as do 31% of white and black biracial adults.

Among biracial white and Asian adults, 23% say their racial background is essential to their personal identity. Only 15% of all multiracial Hispanics consider their racial mix to be central to who they are.

Significantly, the share of biracial adults with a white and black background (31%) who view

### Importance of Racial Background Varies Among Major Multiracial Groups

*% of each group who see their racial background as "essential" to their personal identity*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Sample sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q8c

### Identity Among Biracial White and Black Adults and Single-Race Blacks and Whites

*% of each racial group who say this characteristic is "essential" to their sense of personal identity*

	White-black biracial	Single-race black	Single-race white
Gender	62	61	49
Religion	39	47	40
Racial background	31	55	20
Family's ancestry/country of origin	32	40	16
Occupation	21	26	18
Political affiliation	9	17	10

Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial white-black adults are two races and non-Hispanic (n=118). Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q8a-f

their race as essential to their identity is substantially smaller than the proportion of single-race blacks (55%) who hold the same view. Single-race white adults are somewhat less likely than biracial white and black adults to consider their racial background to be an essential part of their overall identity; only 20% say it is.

Multiracial blacks are more likely than other multiracial groups to consider their family ancestry or country of origin as key to their identity. For example, about a third (32%) of white and black biracial adults say their family ancestry is essential to their sense of who they are, double the proportion of white and American Indian biracial adults who hold that view. About four-in-ten black and American Indian adults (36%) and multiracial white, black and American Indian adults (42%) say their family's ancestry or country of origin is essential to their identity. Among white and Asian biracial adults, 21% say this, as do 12% of multiracial Hispanics.

*"Most of the world sees me as white, but on a personal, more emotional level, I connect very strongly to [the Catawba tribal] community that I grew up with because it's my family."*

*-White and American Indian biracial man, age 23*

## Chapter 4: The Multiracial Experience

The multiracial experience in America is, in many ways, shaped by the composition of one's racial background, although there are some shared experiences across multiracial groups. Overall, a majority of multiracial adults say they are proud of their mixed racial background, and more say that being multiracial has been mainly an advantage in their lives than say it has been a disadvantage. Meanwhile, only about one-in-ten say their mixed racial background has made them feel ashamed (8%) or like an outsider (12%).

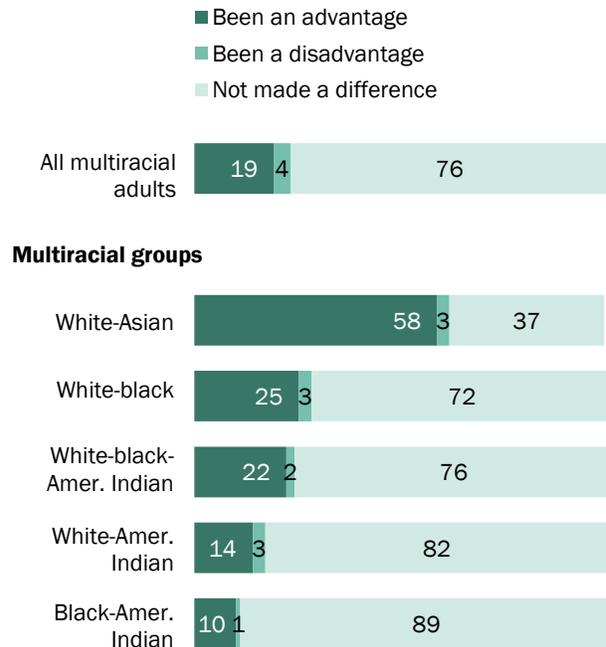
Yet, while the survey finds a generally positive outlook among multiracial adults, considerable shares report that they have experienced discrimination because of their racial background, including fully 55% who say they have been subject to slurs or jokes, about four-in-ten (43%) who say they have received poor service in restaurants and other businesses, and a third or less who have been treated unfairly by an employer in hiring, pay or promotion (33%); have been threatened or physically attacked (30%); or have been unfairly stopped by police (25%).

Experiences with discrimination are, at least in part, tied to the way one's racial background is perceived by others. Multiracial adults who are seen by others as white are far less likely to say they have faced discrimination across several measures than those who are seen as black, Hispanic or multiracial.

Other assessments of the multiracial experience are particularly affected by the races that make up a person's background. For example, biracial adults who are white and Asian are far more likely than other biracial Americans to say their mixed racial background has been mainly an advantage

### Few Multiracial Adults Say Their Racial Background Has Been a Disadvantage

*% saying having a racial background that includes more than one race has mainly ...*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Multiracial adults are two or more races. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black- Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q33a

and to express high levels of satisfaction with the quality of life in their community. This section of the report looks at how people of different mixed racial backgrounds experience being multiracial in America.

## Multiracial Background Seen as More of an Advantage than a Disadvantage

Multiracial Americans, for the most part, don't think having a racial background that includes more than one race has been an advantage or a disadvantage in their life. But to the extent that it has mattered, more say their racial background has been beneficial than say it has been detrimental. This is particularly the case among biracial adults who are white and Asian.

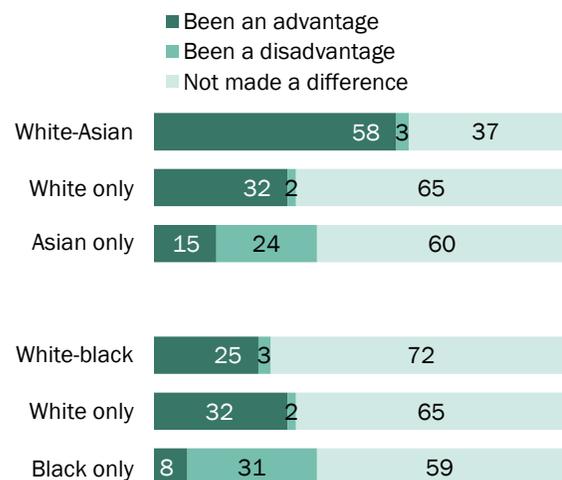
Overall, about one-in-five (19%) adults with a mixed racial background say being multiracial has been mainly an advantage, while just 4% say it has been a disadvantage; 76% say it has not made a difference.

Biracial adults who are white and Asian are far more likely than any other biracial group to say their mixed racial background has been mainly an advantage. About six-in-ten (58%) of those who are white and Asian say this, compared with 25% of those who are white and black, 14% of those who are white and American Indian, and 10% of those who are black and American Indian. About one-in-five (22%) of those who are white, black and American Indian say their racial background has mainly been an advantage. Majorities of adults who are white and black (72%), white and American Indian (82%), black and American Indian (89%), and white, black and American Indian (76%) say it has been neither an advantage nor a disadvantage.

In addition to having a more positive view of the impact of their racial background than other biracial adults, those who are both white and Asian are more likely than single-race

### Advantage of Biracial vs. Single-Race Background

% saying their racial background has mainly ...



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black and 88 white-Asian. Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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Q33a-b

whites and single-race Asians to say their racial background has been mainly an advantage in their lives. About a third (32%) of single-race whites say their racial background has mainly had a positive impact, 26 percentage points lower than among the white and Asian biracial group. The contrast is even more pronounced between those who are both white and Asian and single-race Asians: only 15% of single-race Asians say their racial background has been mainly an advantage (43 percentage points lower than among the white and Asian group), while about a quarter (24%) say it has mainly been a disadvantage.

Similarly, biracial adults who are white and black have a more positive view of the impact of their racial background than do single-race blacks. While those who are both white and black are far more likely to say it has been an advantage (25%) than to say it has been a disadvantage (3%) in their lives, the opposite is true among single-race blacks. About three-in-ten (31%) say their racial background has had a negative impact on their lives vs. 8% who say it has had a positive impact. Assessments of the overall impact of their racial background do not differ significantly between those who are both white and black and those who are white only.

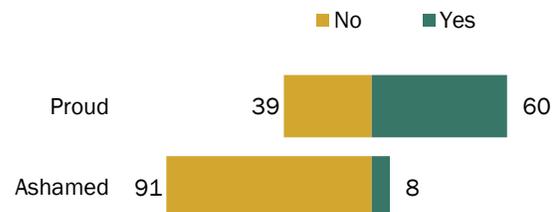
## Most Have Felt Proud of Multiracial Background

A majority (60%) of multiracial adults say they have at times felt pride in their mixed racial background, a sentiment that is shared by about a half or more across multiracial groups. Three-quarters of those who are white and Asian say they are proud of having a racial background that includes more than one race, as do 64% of white and black, 57% of white and American Indian, and 54% of black and American Indian biracial adults; about half (53%) of multiracial adults who are white, black and American Indian also say they have felt this way.

Hispanics who are two or more races are considerably more likely than non-Hispanic multiracial adults to say they have been proud of their mixed racial background, although majorities among both groups say this has happened to them. About three-quarters (76%) of multiracial Hispanics say this,

### More Have Felt Proud than Shame in Multiracial Background

*% saying they have felt proud or ashamed of their multiracial background*



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). The 60% who say they have felt proud of their mixed racial background comprise 29% who say they have felt this way "often" and 31% who say they have felt this way "sometimes." "No" includes those who say they "rarely" or "never" felt proud. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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Q25c,26d

compared with 58% of multiracial adults who are not Hispanic.

In contrast, just 8% of multiracial adults say they have ever felt embarrassed or ashamed of their mixed racial background. Feelings of shame are more common among those who have been treated badly or have experienced some form of discrimination because they are multiracial. For example, those who say a relative or someone in their extended family has treated them badly are four times as likely as those who have not experienced this to say they have felt embarrassed or ashamed of being multiracial (24% vs. 6%).

## Many Feel They Are More Open to Other Cultures and Races

The survey findings suggest that multiracial adults may have a more open and understanding approach to people of other races and cultures. About six-in-ten (59%) multiracial Americans believe their mixed racial background has made them more open to cultures other than their own, and about as many (55%) have felt that they are more understanding of people of different racial backgrounds. This is especially the case among multiracial adults who have attended college: 69% of college graduates and 62% of those with some college say they have felt that they are more open to other cultures, and 64% and 60%, respectively, have felt that they are more understanding of people of different racial backgrounds. By comparison, of those with less education, 52% say they are more open to other cultures and 46% say they are more understanding of people of different racial backgrounds.

White and Asian biracial adults are more likely than other multiracial groups to say their mixed racial background has made them more open to other cultures and more understanding of people with different racial backgrounds: About three-

## Multiracial Adults Say They Are More Open to Other Cultures and Races, but Not a “Bridge” Between Different Racial Groups

*% saying their multiracial background has made them feel ...*

	More open to other cultures	More understanding of people of different racial backgrounds	Like a “bridge” between different racial groups
All multiracial adults	59	55	19
White-Asian	77	79	23
White-black	65	63	16
White-black-Amer. Indian	62	62	41
Black-Amer. Indian	56	52	20
White-Amer. Indian	55	48	14
College graduate	69	64	22
Some college	62	60	22
High school or less	52	46	16

Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Multiracial adults are two or more races. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q26a-c

quarters of biracial adults who are white and Asian say this is the case. Somewhat fewer of those who are white and American Indian or black and American Indian say they have felt more open to cultures other than their own because of their mixed racial background (55% and 56%, respectively), and about half in each group say they have felt like they are more understanding of people of different racial backgrounds (48% and 52%, respectively). Fully 65% of biracial adults who are white and black believe their mixed racial background has made them more open to other cultures. A similar share (62%) of multiracial adults who are white, black and American Indian say the same. Similarly, fully 63% of multiracial adults who are white and black and 62% who are white, black and American Indian say they are more understanding of people of different racial backgrounds.

*“I think some of the benefits of being multiracial [are] that you have an understanding about multiple cultures and a familiarity and appreciation for them.”*

*-White and Asian biracial man, age 44*

Yet, while many say their mixed racial background has made them more open to other cultures and more understanding of different racial backgrounds, relatively few multiracial adults see themselves as ambassadors who can bring people of different races together. Just 19% say they have ever felt like a go-between, or “bridge,” between different racial groups, while 80% have not felt this way. Even among those who say being multiracial has made them more open to other cultures or more understanding of people of different racial backgrounds, only about three-in-ten have felt like they were a bridge between different racial groups.

## “What Are You?”

A quarter of multiracial adults report that people are often or sometimes confused about their racial background, and that is particularly the case among those who are white and Asian (44%), white and black (34%) and white, black and American Indian (40%). In contrast, just 18% of white and American Indian and 14% of black and American Indian biracial adults say this happens at least sometimes.

Hispanic multiracial adults are also more likely than those who are not Hispanic to say people are confused about their racial background. Four-in-ten adults who are Hispanic and two or more races say this happens at least sometimes, compared with 23% of multiracial adults who are not Hispanic.

Among those who say people are often or sometimes confused about their racial background, 62% say they have felt annoyed because someone made assumptions about their race. Just about one-in-ten (11%) multiracial adults who say people are rarely or never confused have felt annoyed by this. Overall, 24% of multiracial Americans say they have felt annoyed at times because someone made assumptions about their racial background.

### Few Have Felt Like an Outsider

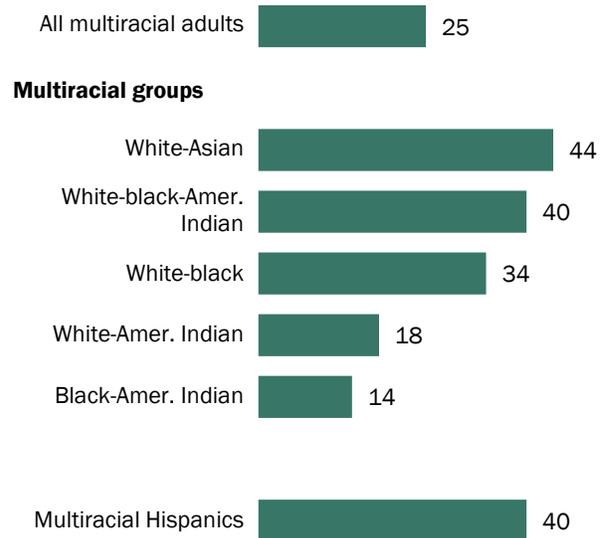
About one-in-eight (12%) multiracial adults say they have at least sometimes felt like an outsider because of their mixed racial background; 71% say they have never felt this way, and 14% say they have, but only rarely.

Multiracial adults who are white and American Indian (83%) or black and American Indian (77%) are far more likely than those who are white, black and American Indian (62%), white and black (56%) or white and Asian (48%) to say they have *never* felt like an outsider because of their racial background. Across all of these multiracial groups, three-quarters or more say this has happened rarely, if at all.

Among Hispanic adults who are two or more races, half say they have never felt like an outsider because they are multiracial, and an additional 31% say they have rarely felt that way. About one-in-five (19%) say they have felt like an outsider at least sometimes because of their mixed racial background. In contrast, about three-quarters (74%) of non-Hispanic multiracial adults have never felt like an outsider because of their mixed racial background, 14% say they have felt that way only rarely and 11% say they have felt like an outsider at least sometimes.

### Confusion About One's Background Depends in Part on Racial Composition

*% saying people are often/sometimes confused by their racial background*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Multiracial adults are two or more races. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white- black- Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Multiracial Hispanics are two or more races and Hispanic (n=139).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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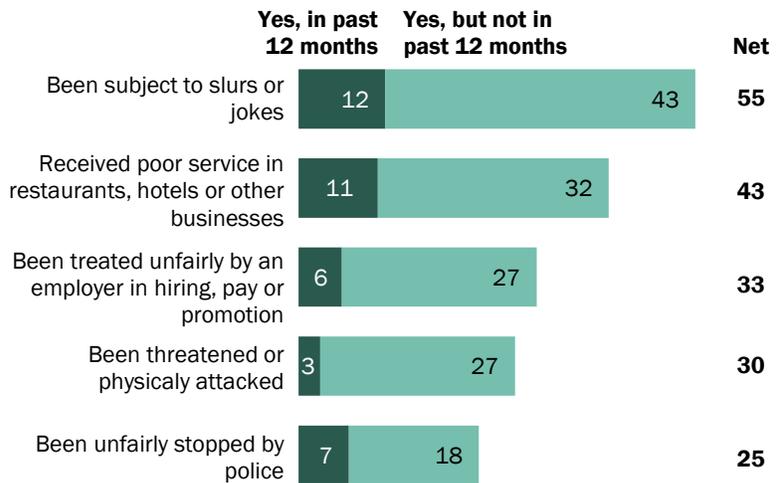
Q25b

## Experiences with Discrimination Often Tied to Racial Perceptions

Fully 55% of multiracial adults report that they have been subject to slurs or jokes because of their racial background; smaller but substantial numbers also say they have received poor service in restaurants, hotels or other businesses (43%), been treated unfairly by an employer in hiring, pay or promotion (33%), been threatened or physically attacked (30%), or been unfairly stopped by police (25%).

### Many Multiracial Adults Have Experienced Racial Discrimination

*% saying they have \_\_\_\_\_ because of their racial background*



Multiracial adults with a black background are far more likely than those who are white and Asian or white and American Indian to say they

have experienced some forms of discrimination because of their racial background. In particular, about six-in-ten or more adults who are white and black (57%), white, black and American Indian (74%) and black and American Indian (67%) say they have received poor service in restaurants, hotels or other businesses. Far fewer adults who are white and American Indian (30%) or white and Asian (25%) say they've experienced this. Similarly, multiracial adults who say one of their races is black are much more likely than those without a black background to say they have been treated unfairly by an employer or unfairly stopped by police.

Across most items measured, experiences with racial discrimination are, at least in part, tied to the way one's racial background is perceived by others. For example, half or more of those who say most people who pass them on the street would describe them as black (69%), multiracial (61%) or Hispanic (56%) say they have received poor service at restaurants, hotels or other businesses; only about half that share (26%) of multiracial adults who say most would describe them as white have experienced this. Those who are perceived as white are also less likely to say they have been

Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q16a-e

treated unfairly by an employer or have been unfairly stopped by police; and less likely than those who are seen as black or multiracial to have been subject to slurs or jokes.

In some instances, experiences with racial discrimination among those who are perceived to be a certain race mirror those of single-race adults of that race. For example, 28% of multiracial adults who say most people would describe them as black if they passed them on the street say they have been threatened or physically attacked because of their racial background, as do 25% of single-race blacks; about four-in-ten multiracial adults who are perceived as black (43%) and single-race blacks (42%) report having been unfairly stopped by police; and 52% of multiracial adults who are seen as black and 46% of those who are single-race black say they have been treated unfairly by an employer. Likewise, multiracial adults who are perceived as white generally report facing discrimination at rates similar to those for single-race whites.

## Multiracial Adults Who Are Perceived as White Are Less Likely to Have Experienced Discrimination

*% saying they have ever ... because of their racial background*

*Among those who say most people would describe them as \_\_\_\_\_ if they passed them on the street*

	White	Black	Hispanic	Multiracial
Been subject to slurs or jokes	44	71	55	72
Received poor service in restaurants, hotels or other businesses	26	69	56	61
Been treated unfairly by an employer in hiring, pay, or promotion	22	52	39	44
Been threatened or physically attacked	27	28	34	39
Been unfairly stopped by police	14	43	34	36

Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents); 986 multiracial adults say most people would describe them as white, 251 as black or African American, 89 as Hispanic or Latino and 132 as mixed race or multiracial. The number of multiracial adults who say most people would describe them as Asian or Asian American (n=24), American Indian (n=48), or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (n=11) is too small to analyze.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

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Q16a-e,19

*"I don't care how many races I have. I'm looked at as an African American. And because of that, I'm already in the back seat of a car."*

*-Black and Asian biracial man, age 47*

*"It wasn't until college until I began to be exposed to ideas of institutional racism, institutional oppression, that I began to realize actually I don't get the benefit from white privilege, and that people, no matter how I see myself, at the end of the day I'm still black."*

*-White and black biracial man, age 25*

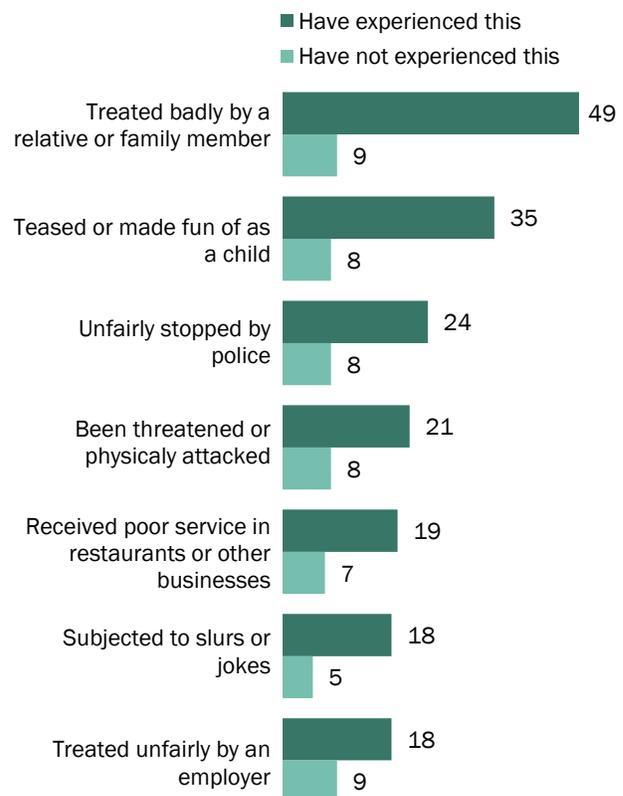
It is notable, however, that multiracial adults who are perceived as black or white are more likely than single-race blacks and whites, respectively, to say they have been subjected to racially motivated slurs or jokes. About seven-in-ten (71%) multiracial adults who say most would describe them as black say this has happened to them, compared with 56% of single-race blacks who say the same. And while 44% of multiracial adults who are seen as white say they have been subject to slurs or jokes because of their racial background, fewer single-race whites (36%) say this has happened to them.

For some multiracial adults, especially those who are white and black and white and Asian, racially motivated jokes or insults started in childhood. About one-in-seven (15%) multiracial adults, including similar shares across age groups, say they were at times teased or made fun of when they were growing up because of their mixed racial background. Those who are white and black (28%) and white and Asian (30%) are about three times as likely as those who are white and American Indian (10%), white, black and American Indian (10%) or black and American Indian (11%) to say they were teased as children because of their mixed racial background.

For those who have experienced some form of rejection or discrimination, feeling like an outsider is not uncommon. For example, about half (49%) of multiracial adults who say they have been treated badly by a member of their extended family because of their mixed racial background say they have felt like an outsider at times; just 9% of those who have not been mistreated by a family member say the same.

## Multiracial Adults Who Have Experienced Discrimination More Likely to Have Felt Like an Outsider

*% saying they have often/sometimes felt like an outsider because of their mixed racial background among those who ...*



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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Q16a-e,25a,30,31

Among multiracial adults who say they were at least sometimes teased when they were growing up because of their mixed racial background, 35% report that they have, at times, felt like an outsider, compared with 8% of those who say they were rarely or never teased. Smaller but significant differences in feelings of exclusion are also evident based on whether a person had ever been threatened or physically attacked because of their racial background; subject to slurs or jokes; treated unfairly by an employer; received poor service at restaurants and other businesses; or unfairly stopped by police.

## Talking to Parents and Children About Racial Background

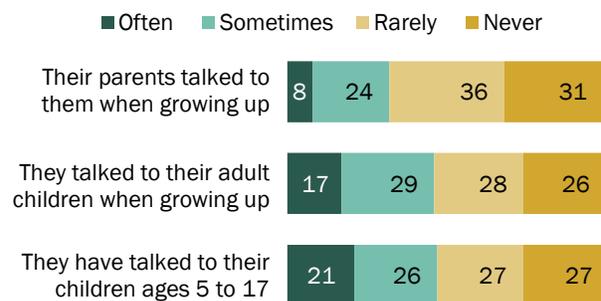
A larger share of multiracial adults say they talk to their own children about having a mixed racial background than say their parents talked to them about it when they were growing up. About a third (32%) of multiracial adults say their parents talked to them at least sometimes about having a mixed racial background when they were growing up; 36% say this happened only rarely, and 31% say their parents never talked to them about this topic.

Older multiracial adults are less likely to say their parents talked to them at least sometimes about having a mixed racial background. About four-in-ten (38%) of mixed-race adults younger than 30 say their parents did this, compared with about a quarter (23%) of those ages 65 and older.

By comparison, more than four-in-ten (46%) multiracial parents of adult children say they talked to their own children at least sometimes when they were growing up about having a mixed racial background; about the same share (47%) of those with children ages 5 to 17 say they have talked to their children about this.

### More Talk to Their Children About Having Racial Background than Say Their Parents Talked to Them

*% of multiracial adults saying \_\_\_\_\_ about having a multiracial background ...*



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). "They talked to their adult children when growing up" based on respondents with children who are 18 or older (n=778). "They have talked to their children ages 5 to 17" based on respondents with children who are ages 5 to 17 (n=282). Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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Q22,24a-b

Multiracial mothers of adult children are more likely than fathers to say they talked to their children about their racial heritage when they were growing up (51% vs. 38%, respectively). Among multiracial parents of children ages 5 to 17, however, about as many mothers (48%) as fathers (44%) say they sometimes talk to their children about their mixed racial background.

About one-in-six (16%) multiracial parents with children of any age say someone at some point has assumed they were not their child's parent because the person thought they and the child had different racial backgrounds. For the most part, mothers and fathers, as well as parents across age, income and educational groups, are about equally as likely to say this has happened to them.

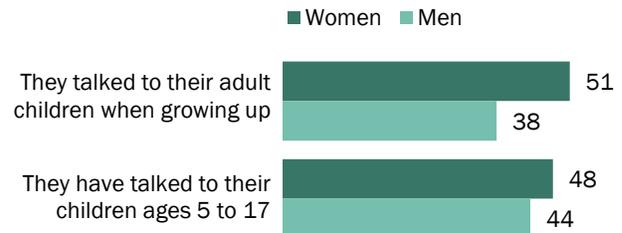
## Most Are Satisfied with Key Aspects of Life

About eight-in-ten (81%) multiracial adults are satisfied with the way things are going in their life, including 29% who say they are very satisfied. At least eight-in-ten also express satisfaction with their family life (87%), the number of friends they have (83%) and the quality of life in their community (80%).

Compared with the general public, multiracial adults are about as likely to say they are at least somewhat satisfied with life overall and with some key aspects of it. But more among the general public express high levels of satisfaction. For example, while 29% of multiracial Americans say they are very satisfied with the way things are going in their life and with the quality of life in their community, 37% of all Americans say the same about each of these items. The general public is also more likely than multiracial adults to express high levels of satisfaction with their family life; 53% and 46%, respectively, are very satisfied with this aspect of their life. These differences reflect,

## About as Many Mothers as Fathers of Young Children Now Talk About Racial Background

% of multiracial mothers and fathers saying \_\_\_\_\_ about having a multiracial background at least sometimes



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Based on 778 respondents who have children ages 18 or older and 282 respondents who have children ages 5 to 17.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

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Q24a,b

*“Growing up [my mother] always would talk to us about, ‘What it means to be Catawba? What does it mean if you don't look like what most people think Native Americans look like? What does it mean for the people who do look like what most people think Native Americans should look like?’”*

*-White and American Indian biracial man, age 23*

at least in part, the fact that the general public tends to be older than the multiracial population, and older adults express higher levels of satisfaction with some aspects of life than do younger people.

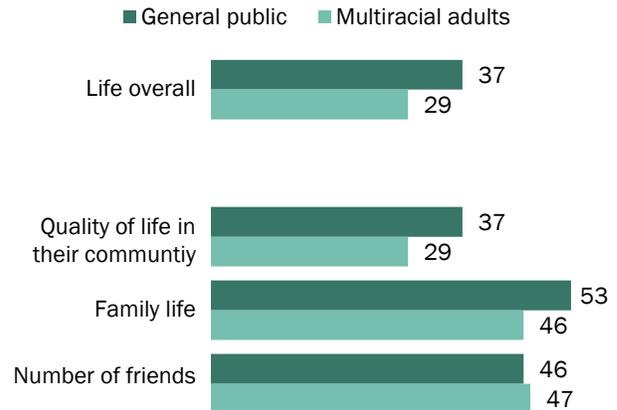
For the most part, outlooks on key aspects of life don't vary considerably across racial groups, but those who are white and Asian express far more positive views about the quality of life in their community than do other biracial adults. About half (48%) of white and Asian adults say they are very satisfied with this aspect of their life, compared with about a third or fewer white, black and American Indian (32%), white and American Indian (30%), white and black (27%) and black and American Indian (23%) adults.

Across most measures, multiracial adults with a black background are less likely than single-race blacks to express high levels of satisfaction. The difference is especially pronounced when it comes to family life and quality of life in one's community. About half (53%) of adults who are black are very satisfied with their family life, compared with 41% of multiracial adults with a black background. And while fewer than half among both groups are very satisfied with the quality of life in their community, single-race blacks are more likely than multiracial adults with a black background to express high levels of satisfaction (38% vs. 25%). Again, these differences reflect, at least in part, the fact that multiracial population tends to be younger than single-race groups.

Similarly, adults who are white are more likely than multiracial adults with a white background to say they are highly satisfied with the quality of life in their community (39% vs. 30%), and single-race whites are also more likely to say they are very satisfied with life overall (37% vs. 31% of multiracial adults with a white background). Single-race Asians are also more likely than multiracial adults with an Asian background to say they are very satisfied with the way things are going in their life (35% vs. 24%), but the two groups do not differ significantly in their outlook on family life, quality of life in their community, or the number of friends they have.

## Higher Levels of Satisfaction Among General Public

*% saying they are very satisfied with ...*



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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Q1,2a-c

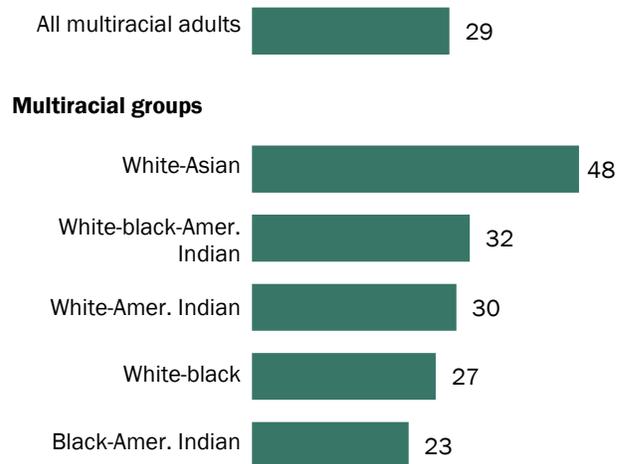
## Views of Personal Finances

Compared with the general public, multiracial adults are somewhat less likely to describe themselves as upper class and more likely to say they are lower class.<sup>46</sup> About half of each group self-identify as middle class. Among multiracial adults, about four-in-ten (38%) say they are in the lower class and 11% describe themselves as upper class. By comparison, 32% of the general public self-identify as lower class and 16% say they are upper class.

When asked to describe their household's financial situation, multiracial adults are also less likely than the general public to say they live comfortably (24% vs. 31%). Roughly the same shares in each group say they meet their basic expenses with a little left over for extras (43% and 40%, respectively), just meet their basic expenses (23% and 20%), or don't even have enough to meet basic expenses (8% in each group). Descriptions of household finances, as well as social class identification, don't vary significantly across different multiracial groups.

## Higher Levels of Satisfaction with Community Among White and Asian Biracial Adults

*% saying they are very satisfied with the quality of life in their community*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Multiracial adults are two or more races. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white, black and Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q2b

<sup>46</sup> "Upper class" comprises respondents who describe themselves as upper class or upper-middle class. "Lower class" comprises those who say they are lower class or lower-middle class.

## Chapter 5: Race and Social Connections—Friends, Family and Neighborhoods

For multiracial adults, the intersection of race and social connections is complicated. Many mixed-race adults straddle two (or more) worlds, and their relationships reflect that. Whether it is in the friendships they form, the neighborhood where they live, or contact with family members, interactions with the racial groups that make up their background are often uneven, as is the level of acceptance multiracial adults feel they get from each group.

Overall, biracial adults who are both white and black say they have more in common with people who are black, and that is reflected in their relationships: They feel they are more accepted by blacks than by whites, have had more contact with their black relatives over the course of their lives, and are about three times as likely to say all or most of their friends are black than they are to say all or most of their friends are white. By contrast, biracial adults who are white and Asian tend to have stronger ties to whites than they do to Asians. For biracial adults who are white or black and American Indian, their connections with the white or black community are often stronger than the ones they feel with Native Americans.

At the same time, the survey finds that multiracial Americans are more likely than single-race adults to cross racial lines in forming romantic partnerships. One-in-eight adults with a mixed racial background who are married or living with a partner say their spouse or significant other is two or more races. Among the general public, only 2% say the same.

This section explores the connections people feel and the relationships they form within and across racial lines. It looks at how much individuals feel they have in common with people of other races and the extent to which they feel accepted by those whose backgrounds are different from their own. It also looks at friendships, family relationships and neighborhoods. The analysis pays careful attention to biracial adults and the ties they feel to the two racial groups that form their background.

### Common Bonds Within and Across Races

There's no question that the U.S. is becoming more racially and ethnically diverse. Still, the survey finds that relatively few adults say they have a lot in common with those who don't share their own racial background. This is especially true of adults who are only one race. Among those who are single-race white, 62% say they have a lot in common with people in the U.S. who are white, while about one-in-ten or fewer say they have a lot in common with people who are black, Asian or American Indian. The pattern is similar for adults who are single-race black or Asian.

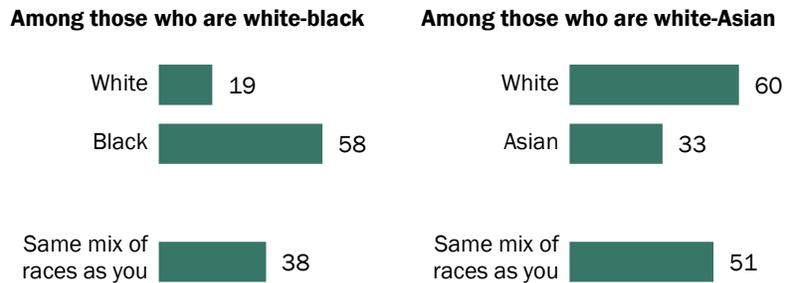
Looking at how much single-race adults have in common with people from different racial backgrounds raises an important question: How much do multiracial adults feel they have in common with the individual racial groups that make up their background? The answer is, it depends.

Biracial adults who have both white and black in their background feel they have more in common with black people than they do with white people. Fully 58% of white and black biracial adults

say they have a lot in common with black people in the U.S., while only 19% say they have a lot in common with whites. Biracial white and black adults are actually more likely to say they have a lot in common with blacks than they are to say they have a lot in common with multiracial people who have the same mixed racial background that they do—38% say they have a lot in common with other biracial white and black adults.

### White and Black Biracial Adults Feel More in Common with Blacks; Asian and White Biracial Adults Feel More in Common with Whites

*% of each biracial group saying they have a lot in common with people in the U.S. who are ...*



Note: Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Samples sizes are: 118 white-black and 88 white-Asian.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q11a,c,d,20a

*“My experience has been more in alignment or in common with other black Americans. No one mistakes me for being white. No one thinks I could possibly come from Western Europe. I’ve never benefited from things like white privilege. For these reasons I’ve been [calling] myself and identify as black.”*

*-White and black biracial man, age 25*

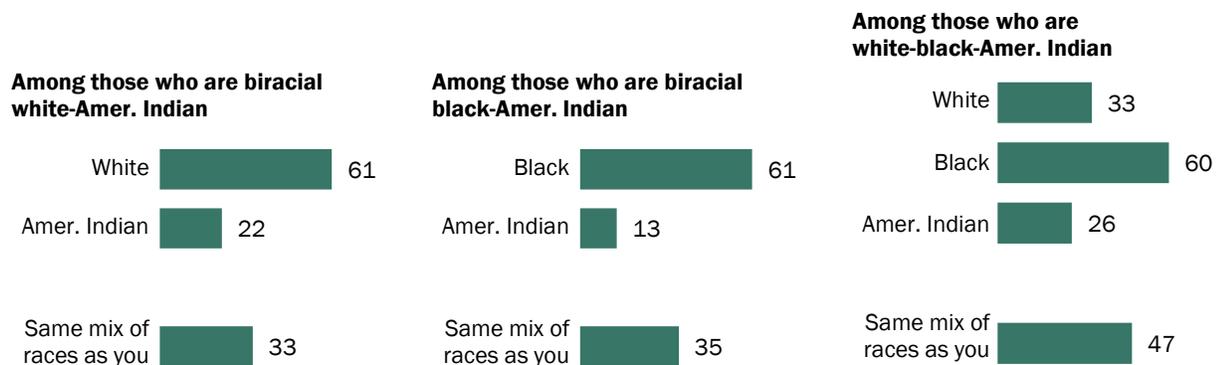
The pattern is quite different among biracial adults who are white and Asian. They say they have more in common with white people than they do with Asian people. Some 60% of biracial white and Asian adults say they have a lot in common with white people, while 33% say they have a lot in

common with Asian people. About half (51%) of adults with a white and Asian background say they have a lot in common with people who are the same mix of races.

Biracial adults who are part American Indian say they have more in common with people who are either white or black, depending on their background, than they do with other American Indians. Among biracial adults who are white and American Indian, 61% say they have a lot in common with people in the U.S. who are white, while 22% say they have a lot in common with people who are American Indian. A third say they have a lot in common with people who are the same mix of races as they are.

### Few Multiracial Adults with American Indian Backgrounds Say They Have a Lot in Common with People Who Are American Indian

*% of each multiracial group saying they have a lot in common with people in the U.S. who are ...*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q11a,c,e,20a

Among biracial black and American Indian adults, only 13% say they have a lot in common with American Indians, while 61% say they have a lot in common with blacks. Roughly half (49%) of biracial black and American Indian adults say they have only a little or nothing at all in common with people who are American Indian. When it comes to relating to others who share the same two racial backgrounds as they do, 35% of black and American Indian adults say they have a lot in common with these mixed-race people.

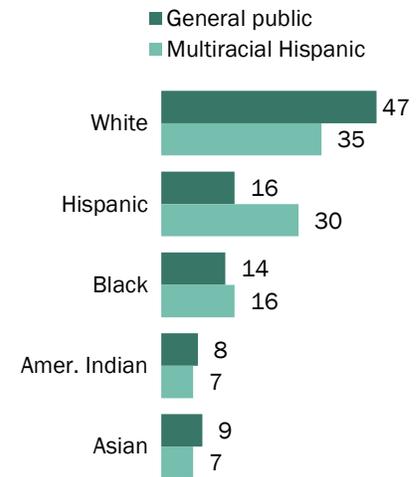
Multiracial adults who are white, black and American Indian say they have more in common with blacks than they do with people who are white or American Indian. Six-in-ten say they have a lot in common with people who are black, while 33% and 26%, respectively, say they have a lot in common with people who are white and American Indian. Some 47% of white, black and American Indian adults say they have a lot in common with other multiracial people who share the same mix of races in their background.

Multiracial adults who are Hispanic and two or more races feel they have about as much in common with people who are Hispanic as they do with people who are white. Roughly a third (35%) of multiracial Hispanics, most of whom have a white background, say they feel they have a lot in common with people who are white, and 30% say they have a lot in common with people who are Hispanic. Overall, this group feels it has somewhat less in common with whites when compared with the general public (35% vs. 47%) and more in common with Hispanics (30% and 16%, respectively). However, they don't feel the same strong bond with Hispanics that biracial white and black adults feel with blacks.

When it comes to feeling a common bond with blacks, Asians and American Indians, the views of multiracial Hispanic adults align closely with those of the general public. Some 16% of multiracial Hispanics say they have a lot in common with people who are black, compared with 14% of the general public. And roughly equal shares of multiracial Hispanics and the general public say they have a lot in common with people who are American Indian or Asian.

### 3-in-10 Multiracial Hispanics Have a Lot in Common with People Who Are Hispanic

*% saying they have a lot in common with people who are ...*



Note: Multiracial Hispanics are two or more races and Hispanic (n=139).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q11a-e

## Is There a Common Bond in Being Multiracial?

Looking at all multiracial adults, regardless of their specific background, about a third (34%) say they have a lot in common with other people who are the same mix of races that they are. An additional 47% say they have some things in common with people whose racial mix is the same as their own. And about one-in-six say they have only a little (13%) or nothing at all (4%) in common with these mixed-race people.

Multiracial adults are less likely to say they have common bonds with mixed-race people who are a different mix of races than they are: 17% say they have a lot in common with these people. A fairly large share (55%) say they have something in common with multiracial people whose racial mix is different from their own. About a quarter of all multiracial adults say they have only a little (20%) or nothing at all (7%) in common with people who are a different mix of races than they are.

## Feeling Accepted

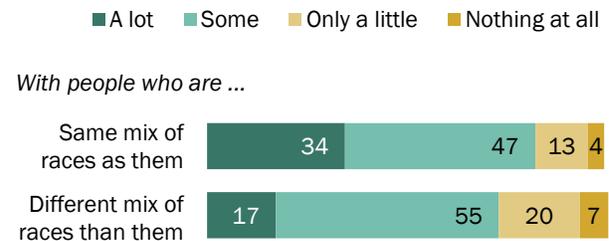
Feeling you have something in common with one racial group or another is one thing. The bar is higher when it comes to feeling *accepted* by those groups. Among all multiracial adults whose background includes white, about two-thirds (65%) say they feel very well accepted by people who are white. But the level of acceptance they feel differs significantly depending on the other races or origins that make up their background.

*"Maybe I'm wrong, but it depends on what two races you are. If you're Asian and Hispanic and you come out with fair skin ... I think you're always going to be perceived as better than [those who are] brown or darker, or darker skinned."*

*-Black and Asian biracial man, age 46*

## Do Multiracial Adults Feel a Common Bond with Other Multiracial Adults?

% of all multiracial adults who have ... in common



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q20a-b

Feelings about acceptance track closely with feeling a common bond: biracial white and black feel more accepted by black people than by white, while biracial white and Asian adults feel more accepted by white people than Asian. Only 25% of biracial black and white adults say they feel very well accepted by people who are white. About six-in-ten biracial white and black adults (57%) say they feel somewhat well accepted by white people, and 17% say they feel they are not too well accepted or not at all accepted by whites. These same biracial adults feel a much greater sense of acceptance from black people. Fully 58% say they feel very well accepted by people who are black, and an additional 35% say they feel somewhat well accepted.

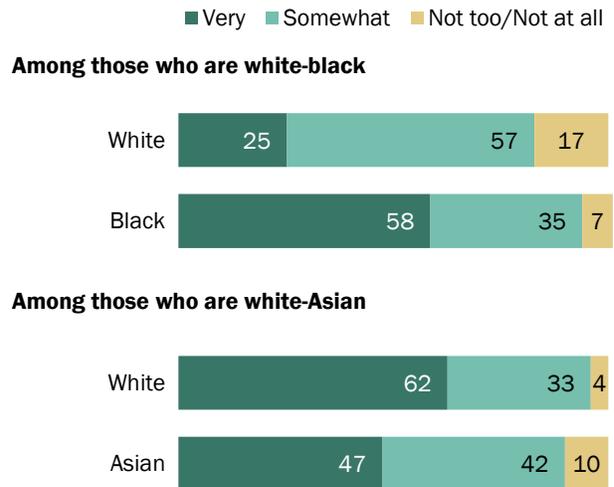
Among biracial adults who are white and Asian, about six-in-ten (62%) say they feel very well accepted by people who are white, while 47% say they feel the same level of acceptance from people who are Asian.

Most biracial adults who have an American Indian background do not feel very well accepted by people who are American Indian. Among those who are white and American Indian, only 34% say they feel very accepted by Native Americans. An additional 41% say they feel somewhat well accepted by Native Americans, and 24% say they feel they are not too well or not at all accepted by this racial group.

These white and American Indian adults are much more likely to say that they feel very well accepted by people who are white (78% say this).

## Biracial White and Black Adults Feel More Accepted by Blacks than Whites

*% saying they feel ... well accepted by people who are ...*



Note: Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Samples sizes are: 118 white-black and 88 white-Asian. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q27a,c,d

Similarly, for biracial adults who are black and American Indian, relatively few (22%) say they feel very accepted by Native American people. By contrast, 56% of black and American Indians say they feel very accepted by people who are black.

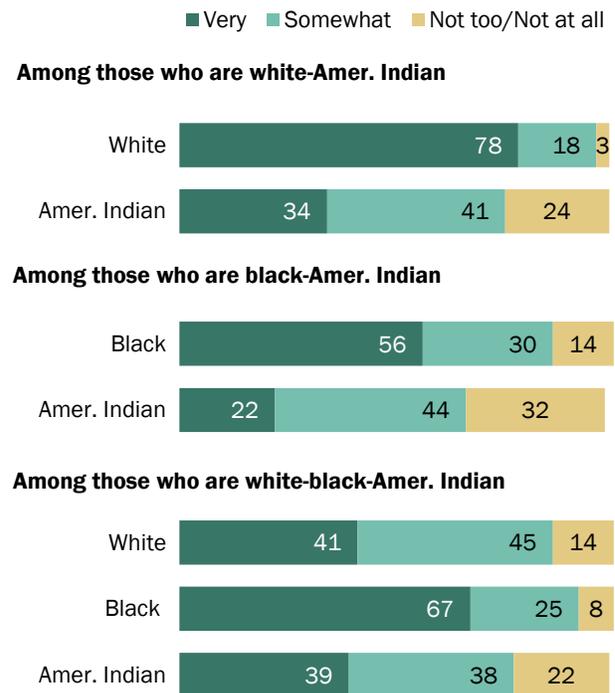
Multiracial adults who are white, black and American Indian say they feel more accepted by black people than they do by people who are white or American Indian. Roughly two-thirds (67%) of white, black and American adults say they feel very well accepted by people who are black. About four-in-ten say they feel the same level of acceptance from whites (41%) and Native Americans (39%).

## Race and Friendship

A majority of Americans say they have at least some close friends who are white, black, Hispanic or mixed race. And somewhat smaller shares say they have close friends who are Asian and American Indian. Multiracial adults are more likely than the general public to say that at least some of their close friends are mixed race, black or American Indian. In fact, one-in-six (16%) multiracial adults say all or most of their close friends are multiracial, compared with only 6% of the general public.

## For Multiracial Adults with Native American Backgrounds, Acceptance Depends on White, Black Heritage

*% saying they feel ... well accepted by people who are ...*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 907 white-Amer. Indian and 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q27a,b,e

While friendship clearly transcends race and ethnicity, the two are strongly correlated. Individuals tend to have more friends among their own race group than they do among races that are different than their own.

Among adults who are white with no other race in their background, fully 81% say that all or most of their close friends are white. Among single-race blacks, 70% say that all or most of their close friends are black. And among single-race Asians, 54% say all or most of their close friends are Asian.

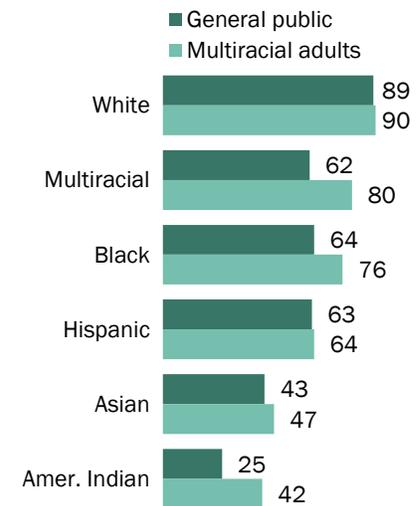
For multiracial adults, their close friends reflect their own mixed racial composition to some extent, but the patterns are complicated and difficult to unpack.

Looking first at the share of adults who say their close friends are white, those who have a mixed white and black racial background are somewhat more likely than those who are single-race black to say all or most of their friends are white. But the share saying this is relatively low for both groups: 18% of biracial white and black adults and 10% of single-race blacks say all or most of their friends are white. Among single-race blacks, 27% say none of their close friends are white.

Adults who are a mix of white and Asian are much more likely than biracial white and black adults to report that all or most of their close friends are white (44% do). By comparison, about half as many adults who are single-race Asian (21%) report that all or most of their close friends are white.

## Do Multiracial Adults Have More Diverse Circles of Friends?

*% saying all, most or some of their close friends are ...*



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Q34a-e, g

Biracial adults with a mixed white and black background report having more close friends who are black than white. About half of white and black biracial adults (51%) say all or most of their close friends are black. By comparison, 70% of single-race blacks say all or most of their friends are black. Only 2% of single-race whites say all or most of their close friends are black, while 36% say none of their close friends are black.

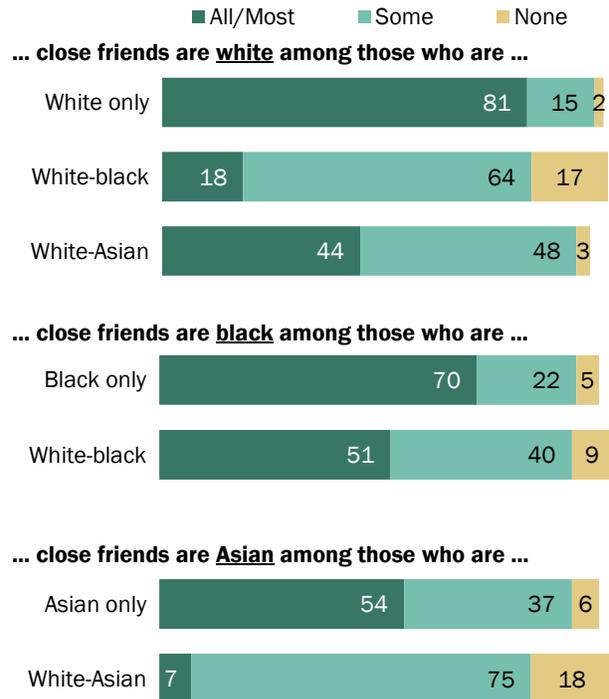
By contrast, biracial adults with a mixed Asian and white background report having more close friends who are white than Asian. Among biracial Asian and white adults, 7% say all or most of their close friends are Asian. Among single-race Asians, fully 54% say all or most of their close friends are Asian. Relatively few single-race whites (2%) say all or most of their friends are Asian; fully 55% say they have no Asian friends.

Just as multiracial adults with American Indian backgrounds say they have little in common with American Indians, relatively few of these mixed-race adults report having a lot of close friends who are Native American. For biracial adults who are white and American Indian, a solid majority (72%) say all or most of their close friends are white. And for those who are black and American Indian, a similar share (68%) say all or most of their close friends are black.

Among biracial white and American Indian adults, 48% say they have at least some close friends who are Native American, and 51% say they have none. The share of black and American Indian biracial adults who say they have no close friends who are Native American is even higher (69%).

## Biracial White and Asian Adults Twice as Likely as White and Black Adults to Say All or Most Close Friends Are White

% saying



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black and 88 white-Asian. Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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Q34a,c,d

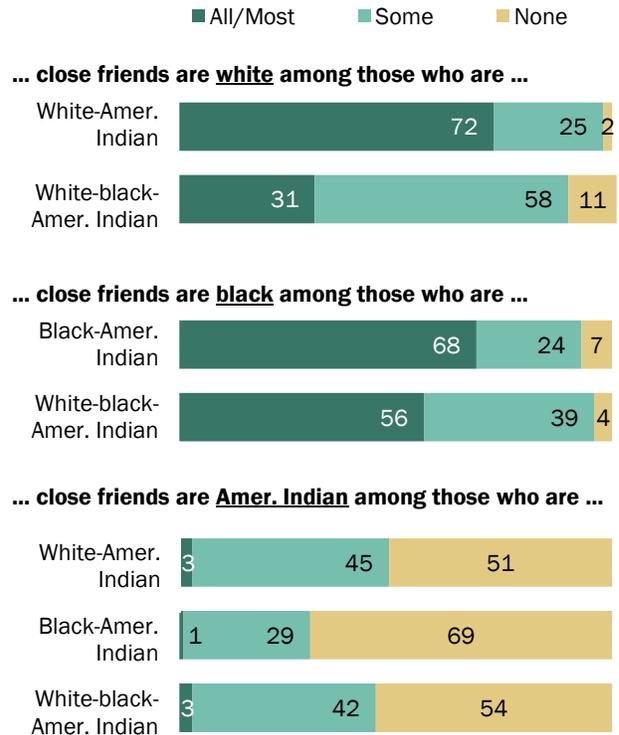
For multiracial adults who are white, black and American Indian, their inner circle of friends tends to reflect their mixed white and black heritage rather than their Native American roots. Some 56% of these adults say all of most of their close friends are black, and about three-in-ten (31%) say all or most of their close friends are white. By contrast, only 3% say all or most of their close friends are American Indian.

As a group, multiracial Hispanics have a diversity of close friends. About four-in-ten (38%) say all or most of their close friends are white, and 29% say all or most of their close friends are Hispanic.

Like other mixed-race groups, multiracial Hispanics are more likely than the general public to say many of their friends are multiracial. In fact the share of multiracial Hispanics saying all or most of their friends are mixed race (25%) is roughly the same as the share saying all or most of their friends are Hispanic. Overall, only 6% of American adults say all or most of their close friends are multiracial.

## For Biracial Adults with American Indian Backgrounds, Most Close Friends Are White or Black

% saying ...



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 907 white-Amer. Indian and 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

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## The Racial Composition of Neighborhoods

A majority of American adults (58%) say all or most of the people who live in their neighborhood are white. The experience of mixed-race adults is not entirely different. A similar share of multiracial adults (54%) say all or most of the people in their neighborhood are white. And just as is the case with the general public, relatively few say they live in neighborhoods that are mostly non-white.

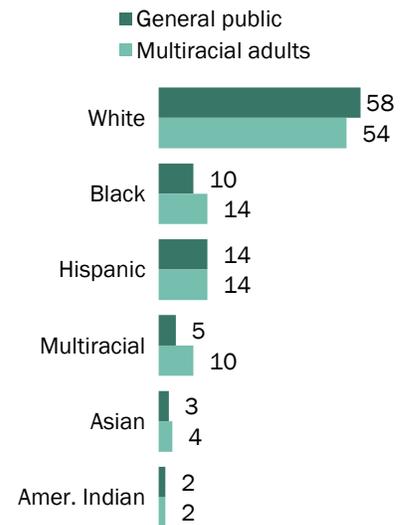
Even so, multiracial adults are more likely than all American adults to say all or most of the people in their neighborhood are black (14% among multiracial vs. 10% among the general public). And they are also more likely to say that all or most of their neighbors are mixed race (10% vs. 5% among the general public).

The racial composition of neighborhoods differs significantly across racial and ethnic groups. And the differences are sharpest among groups of single-race adults. Fully 73% of adults who are white and no other race say all or most of the people in their neighborhood are white. By comparison, 49% of adults who are Asian and no other race say all or most of the people in their neighborhood are white. Among single-race black adults, only 27% say all or most of the people in their neighborhood are white.

Biracial white and black adults are more likely than single-race blacks to say all or most of their neighbors are white—42% say so. But they are just as likely as single-race blacks to say all or most of their neighbors are black. Some 37% of single-race blacks say this, as do 32% of white and black adults.

### Multiracial Adults More Likely than Average to Have Multiracial Neighbors

*% saying all or most people in their neighborhood are ...*



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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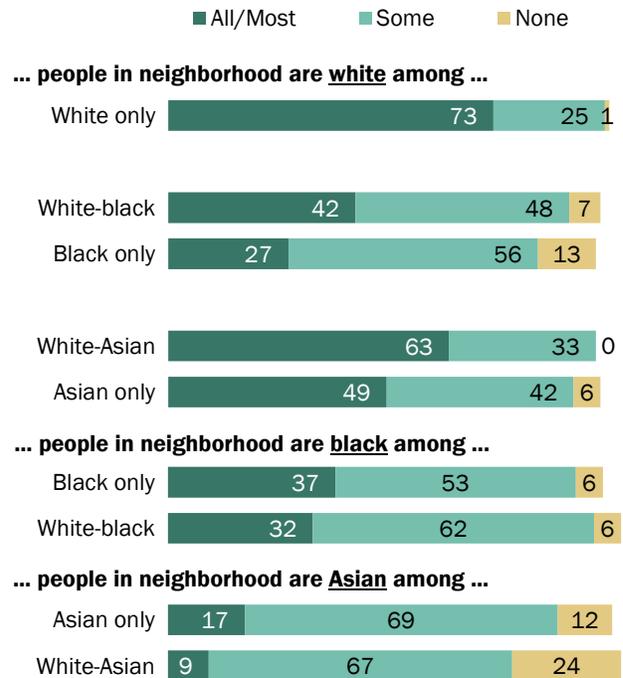
Biracial white and Asian adults are somewhat more likely than single-race Asians to report a higher concentration of white people in their neighborhood: 63% of white and Asian adults say all or most of the people in their neighborhood are white, and 49% of single-race Asian adults say the same. The opposite is true when it comes to the concentration of Asian people in their neighborhood. Among adults who are single-race Asian, 17% say all or most of the people in their neighborhood are Asian, while only 9% of biracial white and Asian adults say the same. Among white and Asian adults, about one-in-four (24%) say there are no Asians in their neighborhood.

Among multiracial adults with American Indian backgrounds, very few live in communities that are predominantly American Indian. About two-thirds of biracial white and American Indian adults (66%) say that all or most of the people in their neighborhood are white, while only 1% say all or most of the people in their neighborhood are American Indian. Fully 64% of this group says none of their neighbors share their Native American heritage.

For biracial adults who are black and American Indian, the racial composition of their neighborhoods looks a lot like that of single-race blacks. About one-in-four (26%) say all or most of the people in their neighborhood are white, and 45% say all or most of them are black. None of these biracial black and American Indian adults say that their neighborhood is predominantly Native American.

## White and Biracial White and Asians Live in Mostly White Neighborhoods

% saying



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black and 88 white-Asian. Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q35a,c,d

Among adults who are white, black and American Indian, a significant share (19%) say that all or most of the people in their neighborhood are multiracial. They are more likely than biracial white and American Indian adults (8%) or biracial black and American Indian adults (4%) to say their neighborhood is mainly mixed race.

Multiracial adults who are Hispanic and two other races don't tend to live in predominantly Hispanic neighborhoods. About half (52%) say that all or most of the people in their neighborhood are white. This compares with 58% among the general public.

Roughly one-in-five multiracial Hispanics (21%) say all or most of the people in their neighborhood are Hispanic. This is not significantly higher than the share of the general public saying all or most of the people in their neighborhood are Hispanic (15%). Some 15% of multiracial Hispanics say all or most of the people in their neighborhood are multiracial.

## Race and Family Dynamics

By definition, multiracial adults have family members with different racial backgrounds. For some mixed-race adults, this is difficult terrain to navigate; for others, it's relatively easy. To be sure, family dynamics are influenced by many factors other than race. Still, the survey finds that, overall, biracial adults tend to have more contact with relatives from one of the races that make up their background than they do with the other.

For example, biracial adults who are white and black have had much more contact with their black family members than with their white family members. Fully 69% say, over the course of their life, they have had a lot of contact with their relatives who are black, an additional 19% say they've had some contact with their black relatives and 12% say they've had only a little or no contact with them.

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### For Multiracial American Indian Adults, Neighborhoods Are Mostly White, Black

*% saying all or most of the people in their neighborhood are ...*

	White- Amer. Indian	Black- Amer. Indian	White-Black- Amer. Indian
White	66	26	47
Black	5	45	18
Amer. Indian	1	0	1
Multiracial	8	4	19

Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q35a,c,e,g

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By contrast, 21% of biracial white and black adults say they have had a lot of contact with their relatives who are white, and 13% say they have had some contact. One-in-four say they've only had a little bit of contact with their white relatives, and 41% say they have had no contact with them at all.

For biracial white and Asian adults, patterns of family contact are quite different. Roughly six-in-ten (61%) white and Asian adults say they have had a lot of contact with their white relatives, while fewer (42%) say they have had a lot of contact with their Asian relatives. About a third (35%) say they've had some contact with their Asian family members, and an additional one-in-five say they have had only a little (16%) or no contact (7%) with their Asian relatives. It's worth noting that many adults with Asian backgrounds were born outside of the U.S. and so may be more likely to have relatives who live in other countries.

For biracial adults with an American Indian background, family connections are much stronger with their white or black relatives than with their family members who are American Indian. Among those adults who are white and American Indian, 81% say they have had a lot of contact with their white relatives, while only 19% say they have had a lot of contact with their American Indian relatives. Similarly, among adults who are black and American Indian, 77% have had a lot of contact with their black family members, and 7% have had a lot of contact with their relatives who are American Indian.

Multiracial adults who are white, black and American Indian tend to be in closest contact with their black family members. Some 78% say they have had a lot of contact with their black relatives, 31% say the same about their white relatives and 15% say they've been in close touch with their family members who are Native American.

## Biracial White and Black Adults Have Much Closer Ties to Black Relatives

*% saying they have had a lot of contact with their ...*

### Among those who are white-black



### Among those who are white-Asian



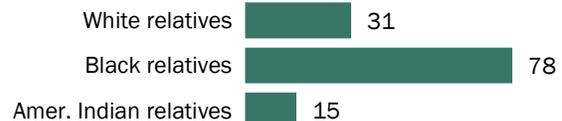
### Among those who are white-Amer. Indian



### Among those who are black-Amer. Indian



### Among those who are white-black-Amer. Indian



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Sample sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

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While some multiracial adults report limited contact with certain racial groups in their family, relatively few say that they've been treated badly by family members because of their mixed-race background. Overall, 9% of multiracial adults say that a relative or member of their extended family has treated them badly because they are mixed race. Nine-in-ten say this has not happened to them.

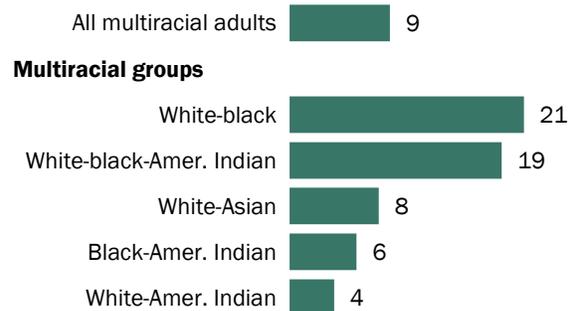
Some multiracial groups are more likely than others to say they have had this type of experience. Among biracial adults who are white and black, 21% say they have been treated badly by a relative because of their mixed-race background. And 19% of multiracial adults who are white, black and American Indian say the same.

Biracial adults who are white and American Indian (4%) or black and American Indian (6%) are somewhat less likely to report having had this type of experience with a family member. Among biracial adults who are white and Asian, 8% say they have been treated badly by a family member because of their multiracial background.

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## 2-in-10 Biracial White and Black Adults Say a Relative Has Treated Them Badly Because of Multiracial Status

*% saying a relative treated them badly because of their multiracial background*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Multiracial adults are two or more races. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106).

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults)

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Q31

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## Race, Marriage and Intermarriage

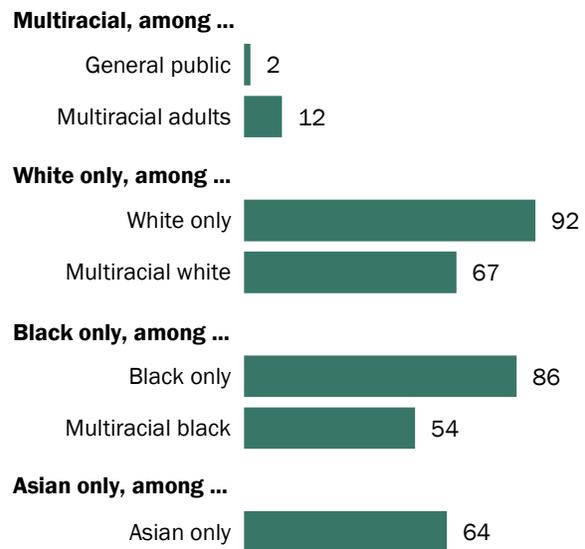
In 2013, about one-in-eight (12%) new marriages in the U.S. were between spouses of different races, according to a Pew Research analysis of American Community Survey data. The share of adults marrying outside of their own group has risen steadily in recent decades, and this trend in turn has helped fuel the growth in the nation's multiracial population.

Multiracial adults, many of whom are themselves the product of interracial marriages, are much more likely than all married adults to have a spouse or partner who is also multiracial. Among all mixed-race adults who are married or living with a partner, about one-in-eight (12%) say their spouse or partner is two or more races. By comparison, only 2% of married adults among the general public say the same.

The vast majority of single-race whites and blacks who are married or living with someone report that their spouse or partner shares their single-race background. Among adults who are white only, 92% have a spouse or partner who is also white only. Multiracial adults with a white background are much less likely to be married to someone who is white only. Two-thirds of multiracial whites say they have a white spouse or partner. Similarly, multiracial adults with a black background are less likely than single-race blacks to have a spouse or partner who is black only (54% vs. 86%).<sup>47</sup>

### Multiracial Adults Less Likely to Have Single-Race Partners

*% saying their spouse/partner is ...*



Note: Based on respondents who are married or living with a partner. Races and Hispanic origin of the respondent based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Multiracial adults are two or more races. The multiracial subgroups in this chart are not mutually exclusive and include non-Hispanics only. Multiracial Asians are not shown due to small sample size. Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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<sup>47</sup> Because these questions were filtered on respondents who were married or living with a partner, there are not enough cases to look at individual biracial groups.

Single-race Asians are more likely than single-race whites or blacks to marry outside of their racial group: 64% say their spouse or partner is Asian only. An additional 31% of this group has a white spouse or partner.

Among multiracial Hispanics who are married or living with a partner, about half (48%) identify their spouse as being single-race white. One-in-five (19%) have a spouse or partner who is Hispanic only, and 13% have a spouse or partner who is black only. Some 10% of multiracial Hispanics have a multiracial spouse or partner.

*“My grandfather married a white woman in South Carolina and so they were married in the '50s, South Carolina. Deep segregation. ... Most people thought he was black, and so for a black man to be marrying a white woman at the time—it was completely uncouth. So they dealt with a lot of—a lot of—that sort of racism in the South.”*

*-White and American Indian biracial man, age 23*

## Chapter 6: Partisanship, Policy Views and Social Values

Overall, multiracial adults look similar to the general public in terms of their partisanship, ideology and views about the role of government. But, as with other attitudes and experiences, clear differences emerge among multiracial groups depending on which races make up their background. Biracial adults who are white and American Indian—who make up half of the total multiracial population surveyed—are more Republican-leaning and conservative than the rest of the multiracial population, and their viewpoints closely resemble those of single-race whites. At the same time, multiracial adults who have some black background lean more toward the Democratic Party and generally have less conservative views than the general public—closely resembling single-race blacks on these measures. Biracial white and Asian adults also tend to lean more Democratic and liberal than the general public, and their views generally, but not consistently, are more in line with those of single-race Asians than single-race whites.

In addition to looking at political identification and views on political issues, this chapter explores multiracial adults' views on a variety of social issues. For example, when asked about the impact the growing number of interracial families is having on American society, a majority of adults say this hasn't made much of a difference. Among those who do think it has changed society, about twice as many say it has been a change for the better than say it's made things worse. Americans are more negative about other changes in the American family, such as increases in single mothers, unmarried parents, and gay or lesbian parents.

### Multiracial Adults Not Unified on Party ID

In terms of their political partisanship, multiracial adults tilt more toward the Democratic than the Republican Party; the same is true of the general public. Some 57% of multiracial adults identify with or lean toward the Democratic Party, 37% identify with or lean toward the Republican Party, and 6% do not lean toward either party. Among the general public, a similar 53% are Democrats or Democratic-leaners and 41% are Republicans or Republican-leaners.

Hidden within this leaned identity is a large share of multiracial adults who, when initially asked about their political views, say they are neither Republican nor Democrat. This includes 28% who say they are independents and an additional 16% who say they are “something else.” The share saying they are “something else” is significantly higher than among the general public (10%).

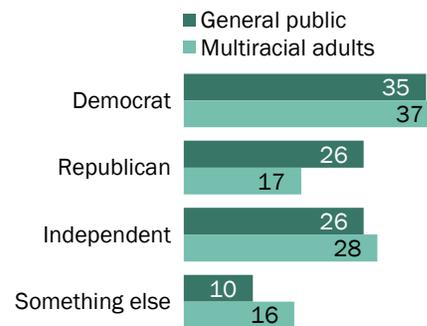
Previous [Pew Research Center analysis](#) has shown that young adults are less likely than older adults to affiliate with either of the two major political parties. The relative youthfulness of the multiracial population helps explain the high share of mixed-race adults who describe themselves as unattached to either major political party. About half of multiracial adults ages 18 to 29 say they identify as political independents (29%) or something else (23%), similar to the 45% of all adults ages 18 to 29 who say this. However, among those ages 30 to 49, multiracial adults are somewhat more likely to identify as something other than Democrat or Republican (45% vs. 35% among the general public), and this also contributes to the gap in political affiliation.

A deeper look at those who identify with or lean to each political party reveals large differences depending on the particular races that make up an individual’s mixed racial background. Biracial adults who are white and American Indian tilt more toward the Republican Party (53%) than the Democratic Party (42%). This stands in contrast to the Democratic leanings of all other subgroups of multiracial adults and the general public. The political affiliation of white and American Indian biracial adults is nearly identical to that of single-race white adults (55% lean Republican and 41% lean Democratic). (The sample of single-race American Indians is too small for comparison.)

Compared with the general public, multiracial groups with some black background tilt more strongly toward the Democratic Party. Among black and American Indian biracial adults, about nine-in-ten (89%) identify or lean Democratic, while just 7% identify or lean Republican. This closely resembles the partisanship of single-race black Americans (92% identify or lean

## Many Multiracial Adults Don’t Identify as Republican or Democrat

*% saying in politics today, they consider themselves ...*



### Leaned Party Identification



Note: Multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

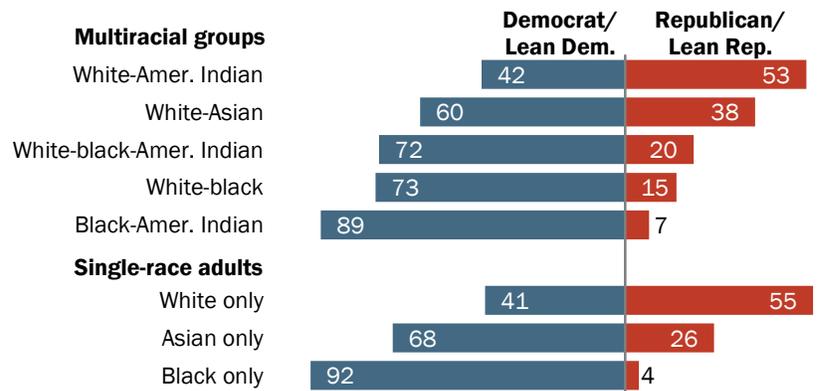
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Democratic, 4% identify or lean Republican). The other two multiracial subgroups with partially black backgrounds are somewhat less likely than single-race blacks to lean Democratic and are at least three times as likely to lean Republican. Nevertheless, their political leanings more closely resemble those of black adults than single-race white adults. White and black biracial adults lean more toward the Democratic Party (73%) than the Republican Party (15%); multiracial white, black and American Indian adults do so by a 72%-20% margin.

## White and American Indian Adults Are the Only Multiracial Group that Leans Republican

*% who identify with or lean toward each party*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic. Those who refused to lean or gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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Some 60% of biracial white and Asian adults identify with or lean toward the Democratic Party, and 38% identify with or lean toward the Republican Party. While they don't differ significantly in this regard from single-race Asians (68% Democrat vs. 26% Republican), they are much more likely than single-race white adults (41%) to identify as Democrats.

Multiracial Hispanics lean more toward the Democratic than Republican Party by a margin of 61%-36%. These views do not differ from those of multiracial adults who are not Hispanic (57% Democratic or lean Democratic vs. 37% Republican or lean Republican).

## Multiracial Adults Split on Political Ideology

As with party affiliation, multiracial adults on the whole do not differ from the general public when it comes to political ideology. Overall, about three-in-ten multiracial adults (28%) describe their political views as conservative, roughly two-in-ten (21%) as liberal and about half (48%) as moderate. Among the general public, 32% are conservative, 20% are liberal and 45% are moderate.

Biracial adults who are white and American Indian are the only multiracial subgroup analyzed in which the balance tilts toward a conservative ideology. Among the other multiracial subgroups, the balance either tilts liberal or is split between the two ideologies. About four-in-ten biracial adults who are white and American Indian (37%) have conservative political views, 18% have liberal views and 44% describe their views as moderate; these shares match closely to those among single-race whites.

About a third of biracial white and Asian adults (35%) describe their political views as liberal, while less than half as many (14%) describe their views as conservative (and 51% as moderate). This stands in contrast to the conservative leanings among the general public (32% conservative vs. 20% liberal) and single-race whites (39% conservative vs. 19% liberal). Among single-race Asians, the balance of ideology is evenly split between liberal (22%) and conservative (25%).

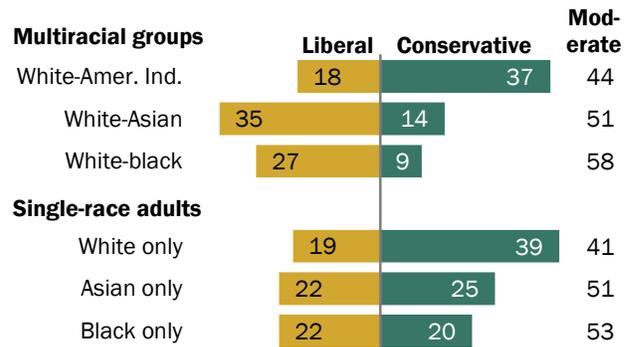
When it comes to political ideology, views are not consistent across the multiracial groups that include a black racial background. Biracial white and black adults lean toward a liberal ideology over a conservative ideology by a 3-to-1 margin (27% vs. 9%), with 58% describing their political views as moderate. This group is about half as likely as single-race blacks (20%), and even less likely than single-race whites (39%), to identify as conservative.

The views of multiracial white, black and American Indian adults are more evenly split between a liberal (19%) and conservative (14%) ideology, with 61% saying they are moderate. These multiracial adults are less than half as likely as single-race whites to say they have conservative views, but their views do not differ significantly from those of single-race blacks.

Among biracial black and American Indian adults, about a quarter (24%) say they have conservative views, 17% say they are liberal and 59% say they are moderate. Their political ideology does not differ from that of single-race blacks.

## Biracial White and American Indians Are the Only Multiracial Group that Is More Conservative than Liberal

*% who describe their political views as ...*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian. Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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Multiracial Hispanics are evenly split between a liberal (31%) and conservative (28%) ideology, with an additional 39% describing themselves as moderate. By comparison, multiracial non-Hispanics are somewhat more likely to describe their views as conservative (28%) than liberal (20%), with about half (49%) describing their views as moderate.

## Multiracial Adults Split on Opinions About Size of Government

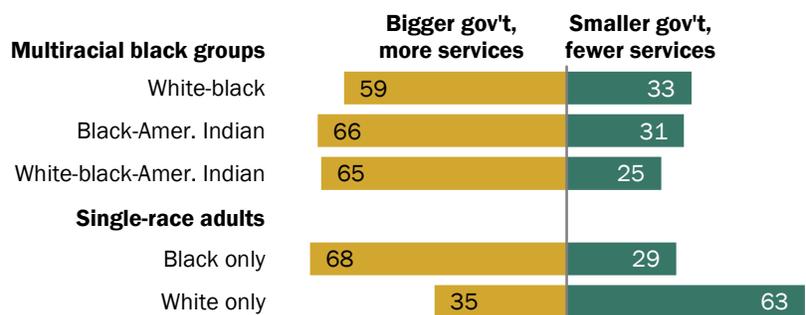
When asked what kind of government they would rather have if they had to choose—a smaller government providing fewer services or a bigger government providing more services—multiracial adults are divided. Half would rather it be smaller, and 46% would rather it be bigger. Among the general public, opinions are similar: 52% prefer a smaller government, and 45% prefer a larger one.

Because views about the role of government are closely related to political ideology, the responses among different multiracial groups follow a similar pattern. By a nearly 2-to-1 margin, biracial adults who are white and American Indian are more likely to prefer a smaller government (64%) to a bigger one (34%). These opinions are nearly identical to those of single-race whites (63% vs. 35%).

At the same time, multiracial adults with some black background are more likely to prefer a government with more services than a smaller one by a margin of about 2-to-1, and their views line up closely with those of single-race blacks (68% preferring a larger government vs. 29% preferring a smaller one). Black and American Indian biracial adults prefer a larger to a smaller government by a margin of 66%-31%. Among white and black biracial adults, the margin is 59%-33%. And multiracial adults with a white, black and

### Black Multiracial Groups' Views on Government Size Closely Resemble Views of Single-Race Blacks

*% saying if they had to choose, they would rather have ...*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black and 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

American Indian background prefer a bigger government to a smaller one by a margin of 65%-25%.

Biracial adults with a white and Asian background are split between preferences for a smaller (51%) or bigger (49%) government. The views of biracial white and Asian adults fall almost directly between those of the single-race groups that make up their background. Among single-race Asians, 43% prefer a smaller government and 54% prefer a bigger government. And among single-race white adults, 63% prefer a smaller government and 35% prefer a bigger government.

Among multiracial Hispanics, 51% prefer a smaller government and 46% prefer a bigger government. These views are nearly identical to those of multiracial non-Hispanics (50% smaller government and 46% bigger).

## Most Multiracial Subgroups Say Government Aid to the Poor Is a Net Positive

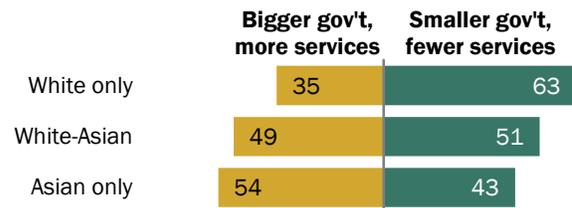
Multiracial adults are more likely to say government aid to the poor is helpful than harmful: 54% say government aid to the poor “does more good than harm, because people can’t get out of poverty until their basic needs are met,” while 44% say it does “more harm than good, by making people too dependent on government assistance.” Among the general public, the opposite is true (54% more harm vs. 44% more good).

Biracial white and American Indian adults stand out among the other multiracial groups for the high share saying government aid to the poor does more harm than good. Some 53% of biracial white and American Indian adults say this, with 46% saying it does more good than harm, similar to the shares of the general public that express these views. However, biracial white and American Indian adults are somewhat less likely than single-race white adults (59%) to say that government aid does more harm than good.

Among the other multiracial subgroups, government aid is consistently seen as doing more good than harm. By a margin of 69%-31%, biracial white and Asian adults say that government aid to

## Biracial White and Asians’ Views on Government Size Fall Between Those of Component Single-Race Groups

*% saying if they had to choose, they would rather have ...*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial white and Asian adults (n=88) are two races and non-Hispanic. Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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the poor does more good than harm. They are more likely than single-race Asians (53%), and especially more likely than single-race whites (40%), to say the effect of government aid is a net benefit.

By contrast, the views of biracial white and black adults align closely with the black component of their racial background. An equal 65% of biracial white and black adults and single-race blacks say government aid to the poor has a net positive effect. A much smaller share of single-race whites (40%) agree. The views of the other multiracial groups with some black background also resemble those of single-race blacks. Some 67% of white, black and American Indian multiracial adults and 62% of black and American Indian biracial adults say government aid to the poor does more good than harm by helping people get out of poverty.

## Other Policy Issues

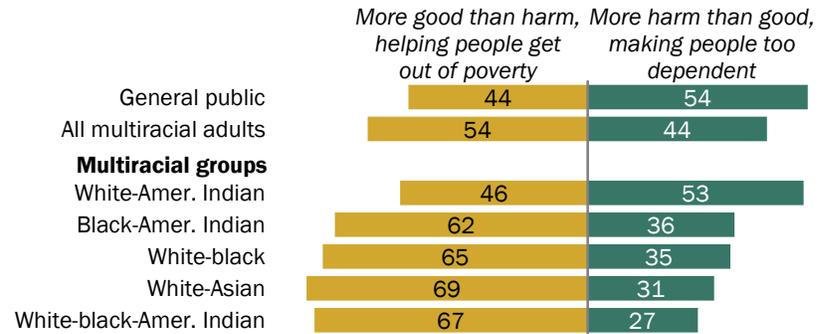
Multiracial adults have different views from the general public on some key policy issues. They are somewhat less likely to favor gun control and more likely to favor marijuana legalization. They do not differ from the general public when it comes to the punishment deemed appropriate for convicted murderers—life in prison versus the death penalty—or whether abortion should be legal.

### Multiracial Subgroups Differ on Views About Gun Ownership

Multiracial adults say, by a margin of 54%-45%, it is more important to protect the right to own guns than to control gun ownership. Among the general public, opinions are more evenly split, with 48% favoring protecting gun ownership and 50% favoring controlling gun ownership.

## Most Multiracial Groups See Greater Benefit than Harm from Government Aid to the Poor

*% saying government aid to the poor does ...*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Multiracial adults are two or more races. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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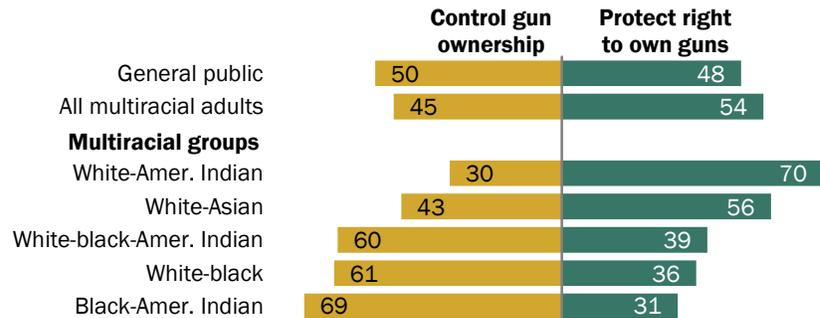
Biracial adults who are white and American Indian are by far the most likely to support protecting the rights of gun owners—seven-in-ten say that this is the more important goal, while just three-in-ten say controlling gun ownership is more important. They are even more likely than single-race white adults (59%) to say protecting gun ownership is more important.

In contrast, biracial adults with some black background are somewhat more likely than the general public to say that gun control is more important—some 69% of black and American Indian biracial adults, 61% of white and black biracial adults and 60% of multiracial white, black and American Indian say this, compared with 50% of the general public. The opinions of these multiracial groups closely mirror those of single-race black adults, who favor gun control over gun rights by a 65%-32% margin. By contrast, single-race white adults are much more likely to favor gun rights than biracial white and black adults and multiracial white, black and American Indian adults.

Among biracial adults who are white and Asian, 56% favor protecting gun owners' rights and 43% favor controlling gun ownership, not significantly different than the opinions among the general public. On this issue, the opinions of biracial white and Asian adults are almost identical to

## Multiracial Adults More Likely to Support Gun Ownership than Gun Control; Opposite True Among Biracial Black Groups

% saying it is more important to ...



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Multiracial adults are two or more races. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black, 88 white-Asian, 907 white-Amer. Indian, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Those who gave no answer are not shown.

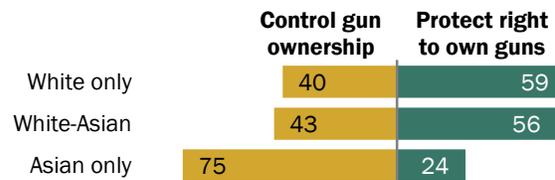
Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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## Gun Control Views Same for Biracial White and Asians, Single-Race Whites

% saying it is more important to ...



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial white and Asian adults (n=88) are two races and non-Hispanic. Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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those of single-race whites. White and Asian biracial adults are about twice as likely as single-race Asians (24%) to say protecting gun ownership should be the more important goal.

Multiracial Hispanics also do not differ significantly from the general public on this measure—55% favor controlling gun ownership and 45% favor protecting the rights of gun owners.

### Strong Support for Marijuana Legalization Among Multiracial Adults

When it comes to the issue of marijuana legalization, multiracial adults as a whole tend to hold more liberal-leaning views than the general public—some 49% of multiracial adults say that the use of marijuana by adults should be legal for medical and personal use, compared with 38% of the general public. A roughly equal share of the general public and multiracial adults approve of legalizing marijuana for

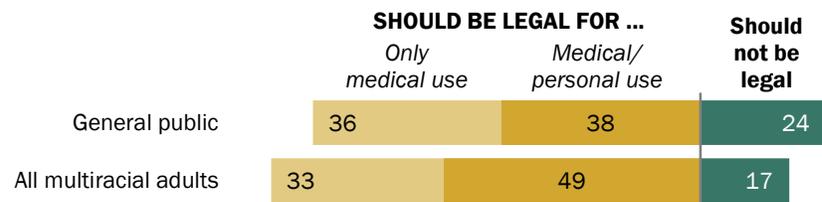
medical uses only (36% and 33%, respectively). Adults in the general public are more likely than multiracial adults to say that marijuana use should not be legal at all (24% vs. 17%).

The greater support for marijuana legalization among multiracial adults is not only explained by the relative youthfulness of this population compared with the general public. The share of multiracial adults ages 18 to 29 saying marijuana use should be legal for medical and personal use is similar to the share of all adults in that age range who say this (54% and 45%, respectively). However, the larger share of multiracial adults in older age groups that approve of recreational marijuana legalization also contributes to a higher level of support than among the general public. About half (52%) of multiracial adults ages 30 to 64 say that marijuana should be legal for both medical and recreational use, compared with four-in-ten of all adults in this age range.

Marijuana legalization is the only political issue analyzed for which white and American Indian biracial adults hold more progressive views than the general public—fully 52% say that marijuana

### Multiracial Adults More Likely to Support Marijuana Legalization than the General Public

*% saying the use of marijuana by adults ...*



Note: All multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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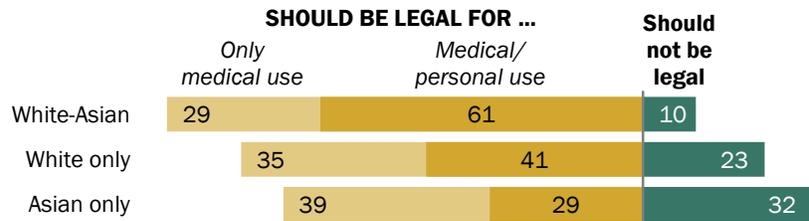
Q5

use should be made legal for personal use, compared with 38% of the general public. They are also more likely than single-race whites (41%) to say this.

Biracial adults who are white and Asian are also more supportive of legalizing recreational marijuana use than the general public—61% say this should happen. Biracial white and Asian adults are 20 percentage points more likely than single-race whites (41%) and about twice as likely as single-race Asians (29%) to favor legalization of marijuana for personal use.

### Support for Marijuana Legalization High Among Biracial White and Asian Adults

% saying the use of marijuana by adults ...



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial white and Asian adults are two races and non-Hispanic (n=88). Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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Among other multiracial groups, support for legalization of recreational marijuana use is similar to the support among the general public. Some 49% each of multiracial white, black and American Indian adults and multiracial Hispanic adults, 43% of biracial black and American Indian adults and 42% of biracial white and black adults support legalization of marijuana for personal use. Furthermore, these multiracial subgroups do not differ on this measure from the single-race counterparts that comprise each of their mixed racial backgrounds.

### Views on Abortion

Multiracial adults are more likely to say abortion should be legal in all or most cases (54%) than to say it should be illegal in all or most cases (44%). Among the general public, views are similar, though the balance is more even between the share saying it should be legal (51%) and illegal (48%).

Biracial adults who are white and Asian are particularly likely to favor abortion being legal in all or most cases, with about eight-in-ten (79%) saying this should be the case. Fully 43% of these biracial adults say it should be legal in *all* cases, which is higher than the share among nearly all

multiracial and single-race groups. Comparing the views of white and Asian adults to each of their component races, they are more similar to single-race Asians than single-race whites, although smaller shares of each of the single-race groups say abortion should be legal (66% and 50%, respectively).

Other groups of biracial adults are more evenly divided and do not differ significantly on this measure from the general public or the single-race groups that make up their racial backgrounds. Biracial adults who are white and American Indian or black and American Indian hold nearly identical views as the general public—51% of each group say abortion should be legal, while 49% say it should be illegal. Among biracial white and black adults, 60% say it should be legal and 39% say it should be illegal. Some 59% of white, black, and American Indian adults and 51% of multiracial Hispanics say abortion should be legal in all or most cases.

### Biracial White and Asians More Likely than Component Single-Race Groups to Say Abortion Should Be Legal

*% saying abortion should be ... in all/most cases*

	Legal	Illegal
White-Asian	79	21
Asian only	66	33
White only	50	49

Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial white and Asian adults are two races and non-Hispanic (n=88). Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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### Multiracial Adults Mirror Public in Views on Death Penalty

When it comes to the appropriate punishment for people convicted of murder, multiracial adults overall do not differ from the general public in their views—about a quarter (26%) say the death penalty should generally be applied to murder cases, about two-in-ten (19%) say life in prison with no chance of parole is the appropriate punishment, and 54% say it depends on the circumstances.

Biracial adults who are white and American Indian are more likely than the general public to see the death penalty as the appropriate punishment for convicted murderers—about a third (32%) prefer this option. This is similar

### Biracial White and Black Adults Fall Between Single-Race Groups in Approval of Death Penalty

*% saying that in general the punishment for people convicted of murder should be ...*

	Death penalty	Life in prison	Depends
White only	28	19	52
White-black	21	26	50
Black only	13	25	59

Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial white and black adults (n=118) are two races and non-Hispanic. Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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to the share of single-race whites (28%) who say this is the preferred punishment.

In contrast, among multiracial subgroups that include both black and American Indian backgrounds, relatively few support the death penalty—just 10% of white, black and American Indian adults and 17% of black and American Indian adults do. Neither of these shares differs significantly from the 13% share of single-race black adults who think the death penalty should generally be the punishment for convicted murderers.

Among biracial adults with a white and black background, 21% say the death penalty should be the punishment for people convicted of murder. This falls between the shares of single-race whites (28%) and single-race blacks (13%) who say this.

## Views on Society and Societal Changes

### Widespread Acceptance of Increase in Interracial Families

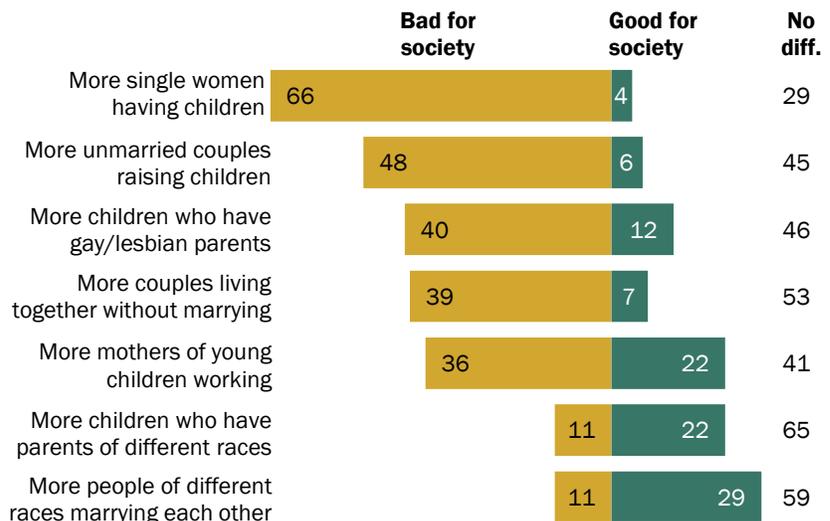
The Pew Research survey included a battery of items about whether a variety of changes in the American family—including increases in interracial families, working mothers, gay or lesbian parents, cohabiting couples, and unmarried couples or single women raising children—have been for the better, worse, or haven't made much difference for society.

Relative to other changes in the American family structure, increases in interracial marriages and parenting are seen as the least harmful, as well as among the most positive.

About one-in-ten American adults (11%) see increases in the number of children who have parents of different races as a bad thing for society, while twice as many (22%) see it as a good thing and the

### Few Concerned About More Interracial Families Compared with Other Changes in the American Family

*% of the general public saying each societal change is ...*



Note: Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,495 adults in the general public)

majority (65%) don't see it as an issue either way. By comparison, other changing living situations for children are seen as more negative than positive. For example, two-thirds of Americans (66%) say more single women having children without a partner to help raise them is bad for society; only 4% see it as a positive development. About half of Americans say more unmarried couples raising children (48%) is a bad trend for society, with just 6% saying it is good. And about four-in-ten Americans say more children with gay and lesbian parents (40%) and more mothers of young children working outside the home (36%) are negative developments, while 7% and 22%, respectively, say these are positive developments.

When it comes to relationships and marriages, regardless of children, 11% see increases in people of different races marrying each other as bad for society, while 29% say this is good for society. By comparison, a much larger share of American adults see increases in couples living together without marrying as damaging to society (39%), with just 7% saying this is a positive trend.

Young adults are at the leading edge of acceptance of interracial families.

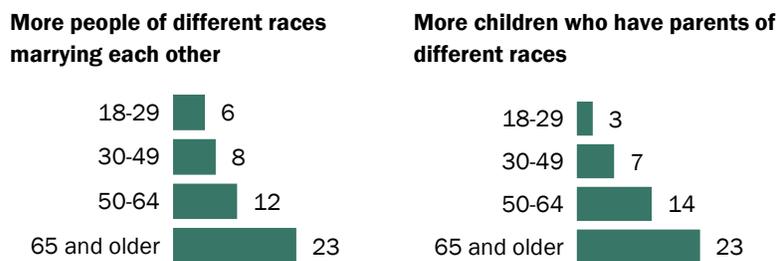
Americans ages 18 to 29 are significantly less likely than Americans ages 30 and older to say the trends that have led to more interracial marriages and parents are a bad thing for society. Among Americans ages 65 and older, about a quarter see rises in interracial marriages and parenting as bad changes in society (both 23%). It is notable that of the

four age groups analyzed, these adults are the only one to have come of age at a time when interracial marriages were outlawed in many parts of the country. These ratings of negativity follow steady slopes downward across the younger age groups. Among adults ages 50 to 64, about half as many say these trends are bad for society than among those older than them. And among adults ages 18 to 29, just 6% say more interracial marriages are a bad thing for society and just 3% say the same about interracial parenting.

Multiracial adults are somewhat more likely than adults in the general public to see these changes as being good for society as a whole. Some 36% of multiracial adults say more interracial

### Very Few Young Adults See Interracial Families as a “Bad Thing” for Society

*% of adults in the general public saying each societal change is a bad thing for society*



Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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marriages are a good thing for society, compared with 29% of the general public. Similarly, some 32% of multiracial adults say that more children with parents of different races is a good thing, compared with 22% of the general public. Majorities of each group say that these changes in family composition have not made much difference to society, with about one-in-ten saying each of these changes have been bad for society.

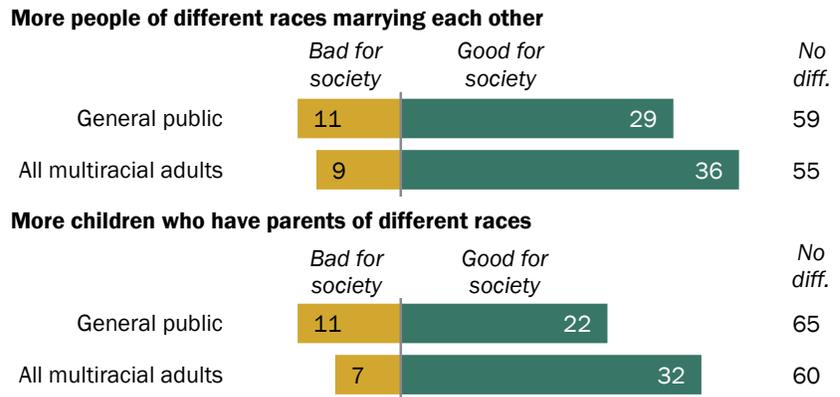
Young multiracial adults are more likely than those ages 30 and older to say more interracial marriages (49% vs.

31%) and more children with interracial parents (43% vs. 28%) are good for society, while the older group is more likely to say these practices have not made much difference. Among the general public, adults younger than 30 are no more likely than adults ages 30 and older to say that interracial marriages are a good thing for society (33% and 27%, respectively), but they are more likely to see children being raised by parents of different races as contributing to a social good (31% vs. 20%).

Biracial white and Asian adults are particularly likely to see these changes as good things for society—60% say more interracial marriages and 54% say more interracial parents are good things for society, standing out from both the general public and several of the other biracial groups in their positive views of this societal shift. Looking at the single-race groups that comprise their multiracial background, white and Asian adults more closely reflect the views of single-race Asians on these issues than single-race whites. These attitudes may reflect the relatively high share of Asians who intermarry. A [Pew Research analysis](#) found that about a quarter of Asian newlyweds (28%) were married to someone of a different race or ethnicity in 2010, compared with just 9% of whites, 17% of blacks and 26% of Hispanics.

## Multiracial Adults See More Interracial Families as a Positive Change for Society

*% saying each societal change is ...*



Note: All multiracial adults are two or more races (based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents). Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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## Multiracial Adults More Likely than the General Public to See “a Lot” of Discrimination

Multiracial adults are more likely than the general public to say that there is “a lot” of discrimination in the United States today against people who are black (41% vs. 26%), Hispanic (26% vs. 18%), American Indian (20% vs. 13%) and white (9% vs. 5%). A relatively low and similar share of multiracial adults and all adults say Asians experience a lot of discrimination (7% and 5%, respectively).

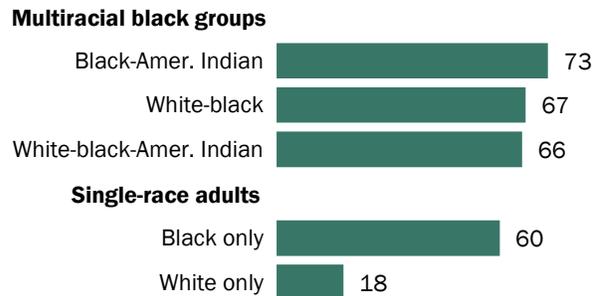
Large shares of multiracial subgroups with some black background see discrimination against blacks in the United States. Some 73% of black and American Indian adults, 67% of white and black adults and 66% of white, black and American Indian adults say there is “a lot” of discrimination against blacks. These shares are at least as high as the share of single-race blacks who say this (60%) and much higher than the share of single-race whites who do (18%).

Among multiracial subgroups with some American Indian background, black and American Indian adults (33%) and white, black and American Indian adults (35%) are more likely than the general public (13%) to say American Indians face a lot of discrimination. By comparison, biracial white and American Indian adults (16%) are no more likely than the general public to say this.

Only 5% of the general public says there is a lot of discrimination against whites in the United States today. Among multiracial subgroups

## Similar Shares of Multiracial and Single-Race Blacks See a Lot of Discrimination Against Blacks

*% saying there is “a lot” of discrimination against blacks in the United States today*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black, 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

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*“People say derogatory things towards Native Americans all the time when I’m in the room because they just immediately assume that I’m not Native American, which is why I think I’ve been more aggressive about identifying as Native American from the get-go, so I don’t just have to listen to it. If they do want to say something horrible ... I’m always conflicted. ... Do I say something? Do I involve myself in this conflict? Or do I save myself the emotional trouble and just get out of there?”*

*–White and American Indian biracial woman, age 23*

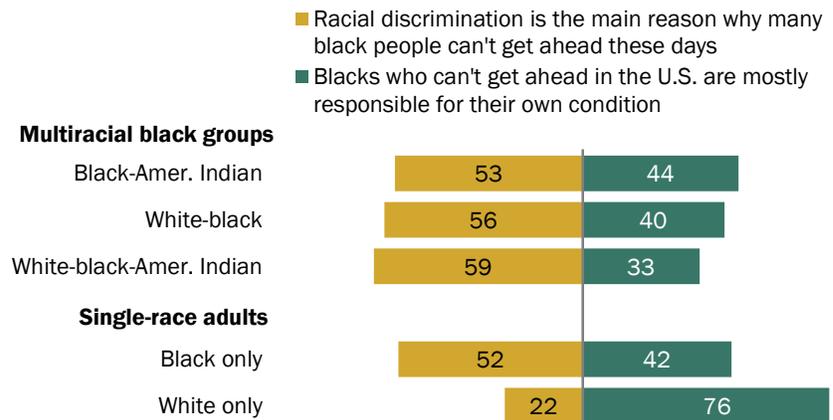
with some white background, those who are white and Asian (16%) and those who are white and American Indian (11%) are more likely than the general public to hold this view.

There are no differences in the shares of the general public (5%), biracial white and Asian adults (4%) or single-race Asian adults (9%) saying that Asians face a lot of discrimination in the U.S. today. Similarly, among multiracial Hispanics, perceptions of discrimination toward Hispanics are no higher than among the general public or multiracial non-Hispanics (20%, 18% and 26%, respectively).

When it comes to the impact discrimination has on black people specifically, about six-in-ten multiracial adults agree with the statement: “Blacks who can’t get ahead in this country are mostly responsible for their own condition.” A somewhat larger share of adults in the general public (68%) express this opinion. And multiracial adults are somewhat more likely than all adults to take the opposite view: 36% of mixed-race adults say “racial discrimination is the main reason why many black people can’t get ahead these days,” compared with 30% of all adults who say that.

### Multiracial and Single-Race Blacks Equally Likely to Say Discrimination Prevents Blacks from Succeeding

*% saying ... comes closer to their own views*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Biracial adults are two races and non-Hispanic. Samples sizes are: 118 white-black and 128 black-Amer. Indian. The white-black-Amer. Indian group is three races and non-Hispanic (n=106). Single-race groups are one race and non-Hispanic. Those who gave no answer are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=1,555 multiracial adults; n=1,495 adults in the general public)

Multiracial adults with a black background are more likely than the general public to say discrimination is the main thing holding many black people back. About half or more multiracial adults who are white, black and American Indian (59%), white and black (56%) and black and American Indian (53%) agree with this statement. The views of these multiracial black groups are similar to those of single-race blacks (52%). By comparison, only 22% of single-race whites say discrimination is the main reason that many black people can’t get ahead these days.

## **Multiracial Adults Split over Impact of Immigrants**

Multiracial adults are roughly evenly split on their opinions about the impact of immigrants on the U.S., with 52% saying “immigrants today strengthen our country because of their hard work and talents,” and 45% saying “immigrants today are a burden on our country because they take our jobs, housing and health care.” These shares are identical to those among the general public.

Among multiracial adults with some Asian background or some Hispanic background, about two-in-ten are immigrants (21% and 17%, respectively), and their views toward immigrants in the U.S. are largely positive. Some three-quarters of all multiracial Asians, and 67% of biracial white and Asian adults, say immigrants strengthen the country. Multiracial Asians are just as likely as single-race Asians (73%) to say immigrants are a benefit to the country. Among multiracial Hispanics, 60% say this.

Just 7% of multiracial adults with some black background and 5% of multiracial adults with some white background are immigrants. Multiracial blacks overall are more likely to say immigrants are a benefit (62%) than a burden (34%), similar to the views of single-race blacks (57% say a benefit vs. 37% say a burden). Among all multiracial whites, opinions are split, with 48% saying immigrants strengthen the country and 50% saying they are a burden. These are similar to the shares among single-race whites, but on balance the single-race group is more likely to see immigrants as a burden to the U.S. (55%) than as a strength (43%).

## Chapter 7: The Many Dimensions of Hispanic Racial Identity

For Hispanics living in the United States, Hispanic identity is multidimensional and multifaceted. For some, it is defined most by their family's country of origin, such as Mexican, Cuban or Dominican.<sup>48</sup> For others, it is defined by pan-ethnic terms like Hispanic or Latino, emphasizing the commonalities of a diverse community.

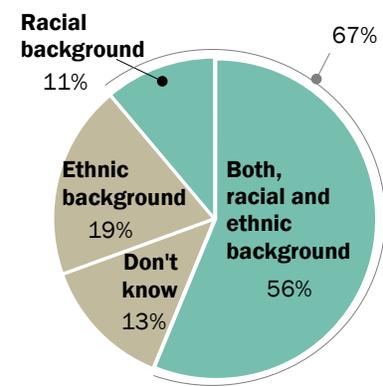
At 54 million, Hispanics make up 17% of the nation's population, and they are projected to grow to be 29% of the U.S. population in 2060, according to the Census Bureau.<sup>49</sup> Between 1990 and 2013, the nation's Hispanic population grew faster than any other racial or ethnic group.

Measuring racial identity among Hispanics has proved challenging for the Census Bureau. Currently, the Hispanic category is described on census survey forms as an ethnic origin and not a race. It is asked about separately from the race question, a practice also followed by many other surveys.

But when it comes to their racial identity, Latinos stand out from other Americans in their responses to race questions. For example, when asked about their race on Census Bureau decennial census and survey forms, many Latinos do not choose one of the standard racial classifications offered. Instead, more than any other group, Latinos say their race is "some other race," mostly writing in responses such as "Mexican," "Hispanic" or "Latin American." Some 37% of Latinos did this in the 2010 census, as did 42% in the 2000 census.<sup>50</sup> This is also the case on Pew Research Center surveys of Latinos. In the 2014 National Survey of Latinos, 25% of

### Two-Thirds of Hispanic Adults Say Being Hispanic Is Part of their Racial Background

*% of Hispanic adults who say being Hispanic is part of their ...*



Note: Hispanic is based on self-identification of race or origin. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=2,438 sampled Hispanic adults)

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<sup>48</sup> See Taylor, Paul, Mark Hugo Lopez, Jessica Martinez and Gabriel Velasco. 2012. "When Labels Don't Fit: Hispanics and Their Views of Identity." Washington, D.C.: Pew Research Center, April. <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2012/04/04/when-labels-dont-fit-hispanics-and-their-views-of-identity/>

<sup>49</sup> See U.S. Census Bureau 2014 National Population Projections. <http://www.census.gov/population/projections/data/national/2014/summarytables.html>

<sup>50</sup> See Humes, Karen R., Nicholas A. Jones and Roberto R. Ramirez. 2011. "Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2010." Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau, March. <http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-02.pdf> and Tafoya, Sonya. 2004. "Shades of Belonging: Latinos and Racial Identity." Washington, D.C.: Pew Research Center, December. <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2004/12/06/shades-of-belonging/>

Latinos volunteered that their race is “Hispanic” or “Latino” and not one of the standard racial classification groups.

Hispanics’ responses to the 2010 and 2000 census raise an important question: Do Hispanics consider their Hispanic background to be part of their racial background, their ethnic background or both? According to the Pew Research survey, 11% of Hispanic adults say that their Hispanic background is part of their racial background, 19% consider it part of their ethnic background and 56% consider it part of both their racial and ethnic backgrounds. Taken together, two-thirds (67%) of Hispanic adults describe their Hispanic background as a part of their racial background.<sup>51</sup>

This finding has implications for how multiracial Latinos are identified. For example, Latinos who identify themselves as one race (such as white or black) when asked to fit themselves into the country’s current standard racial categorization, but then say they consider being Latino as part of their racial background as well, have effectively indicated a multiracial background. That makes this group of Latinos potentially part of the mixed-race population. Taking this broader view of the multiracial population, including Latinos who give one census race and also consider their Latino background part of their race would raise the U.S. multiracial population share to 8.9% from 6.9%.

This chapter incorporates this broader approach to Hispanic racial identity, exploring two possible ways to define and view definitions of mixed-race background among Hispanics: (1) those who say they are two census races (i.e., white and black) and are also Hispanic, a group consistently treated as multiracial throughout the report; and (2) those who name only one race (other than Hispanic), but also say they consider their Hispanic background to be part of their racial background. The chapter also explores other Hispanic racial identities, such as an Afro-Latino background and a background that includes roots among the indigenous peoples of the Americas, such as Native American, Maya, Taino or Quechua. These latter findings come from the Pew Research Center’s 2014 National Survey of Latinos.

*“I’ve never identified as a single race. I think partly that would be insulting to my parents because it would be leaving one or the other out.”*

*—White and Hispanic woman, age 23*

<sup>51</sup> Question wording was “Which best describes your Hispanic background? 1-Being Hispanic is part of my RACIAL background, just like other people consider being black, white or Asian to be part of their racial background; 2-Being Hispanic is part of my ETHNIC background, just like other people consider being Scandinavian, Irish or German to be part of their ethnic background; 3-Being Hispanic is part of BOTH my racial and ethnic backgrounds.” The results in this section are only among people who select Hispanic for their own race or origin. Looking at those who either self-identify as Hispanic or report a Hispanic background for their parents or grandparents, 65% say this Hispanic background is part of their racial background (or both their racial and ethnic backgrounds).

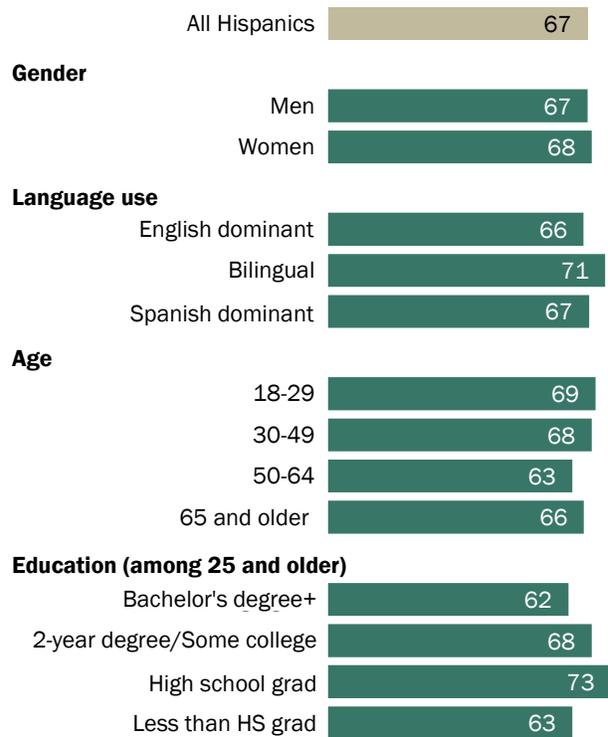
## Who Considers Being Hispanic a Race?

Across age groups, educational levels and language preference, most U.S. Hispanics consider their Hispanic background a part of their racial makeup. For example, 69% of Latinos ages 18 to 29 say their Hispanic background is part of their racial background, as do 68% of those ages 30 to 49, 63% of those ages 50 to 64 and 66% of those ages 65 or older.

Similarly, Hispanics who are Spanish-dominant (67%) are about as likely as bilingual (71%) and English-dominant (66%) Hispanics to consider their Hispanic background part of their racial background.<sup>52</sup> Shares are similar by gender, and across educational attainment levels: Most Hispanics in each group consider their Hispanic background as part of their racial background.

## Most See Their Hispanic Background as Part of Their Racial Background

*% of Hispanic adults saying being Hispanic is part of their “racial background” or “racial and ethnic background”*



Note: Hispanic is based on self-identification of race or origin.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb.6-April 6, 2015 (n=2,438 sampled Hispanic adults)

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<sup>52</sup> Pew Research Center uses a measure, “primary language,” that combines survey respondent self-assessments of English and Spanish speaking and reading ability into a single measure of language ability. It is meant to summarize speaking and reading ability in both English and Spanish. For more on this measure, see <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2012/04/04/iv-language-use-among-latinos/>

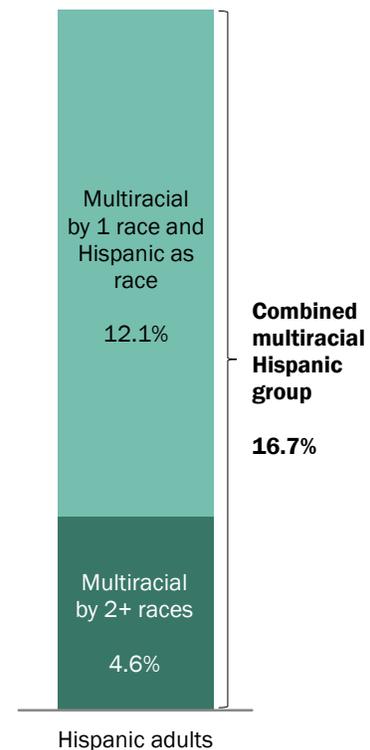
## Identifying Multiracial Hispanics

As noted, multiracial identity among Hispanics can be defined in two ways. The first definition matches that used throughout this report—multiracial adults are those who say the racial background of themselves, their parents or their grandparents includes two or more census races, regardless of whether they see their Hispanic background as a race. By this definition, 4.6% of adults who are Hispanic (or have a Hispanic parent or grandparent) have a multiracial background.<sup>53</sup>

The second multiracial definition includes those who say their Hispanic background is a part of their racial background and who indicate that their background also includes one other census race (such as white or black or Asian). Some 12.1% of Hispanic adults are multiracial by this addition. Adding in those who qualify as multiracial under the first definition, some 16.7% of all Hispanic adults in total would then be identified as having a multiracial background. Among the Hispanic multiracial group that is one census race and considers their Hispanic background to be their race, a large majority (79%) say their racial background is white and Hispanic.

### What Share of Hispanics Are Mixed Race?

*% of Hispanic adults who are ... based on the races and origins reported for themselves, their parents and their grandparents*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 (n=2,642 sampled Hispanic adults)

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<sup>53</sup> By comparison, 7.4% of non-Hispanic adults have a multiracial background according to the Pew Research Center survey of multiracial adults.

## The Multiracial Experience and Latinos

Multiracial identity is not only a reflection of the racial background on one’s family tree, but also a reflection of the social and cultural factors shaping how you were raised, how you see yourself and how the world sees you. For many mixed-race Hispanics, these factors may be as important as racial background in shaping their racial identity.

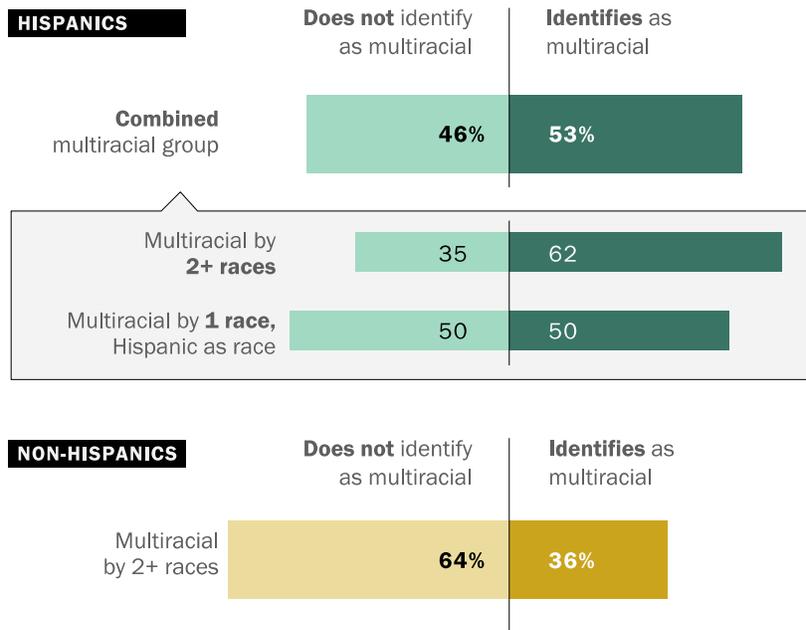
### Do Hispanics with Multiple-Race Backgrounds Consider Themselves to Be Mixed Race?

Even though many Hispanics report having a multiracial background, many may not consider themselves to be mixed race. For example, among Hispanic adults who have a multiracial background based on reporting two or more census races, 35% say they do not consider themselves mixed race. And among Hispanic adults who consider their Hispanic background part of their racial background and who also indicate one census race in their background, 50% say they do not consider themselves mixed race. By comparison, a greater share of non-Hispanic multiracial adults, 64%, says they do not consider themselves mixed race.

### At Least Half of Hispanics with Mixed-Race Backgrounds Consider Themselves Multiracial

*Q: “Do you consider yourself to be mixed race or multiracial, that is, more than one race, or not?”*

(% among adults with a background including two or more races)



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Question wording included “mestizo, mulatto or some other mixed race” for adults who selected a Hispanic origin for themselves. Those who gave no answer are not shown. Sample sizes are: 139 multiracial Hispanics by 2+ races, 261 multiracial Hispanics by 1 race and Hispanic as race, 400 combined multiracial Hispanic group, 1,416 multiracial non-Hispanics by 2+ races.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb.6-April 6, 2015

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## How Multiracial Hispanics Think Others See Them

How do mixed-race Hispanic adults believe strangers passing them on the street see their racial background? As noted earlier, this is one of the many ways the views of one's racial identity might be shaped. For Hispanic multiracial adults, the answer depends on how their multiracial background is defined. However, no matter how it is defined, few mixed-race Hispanics say they are viewed as multiracial.

For example, among multiracial Hispanics who indicate their background includes two or more census races, 30% say most people would think they are white if they passed them on the street. An additional 24% say most people would see them as Hispanic, 17% as mixed race, 10% as black only and 4% as American Indian only.

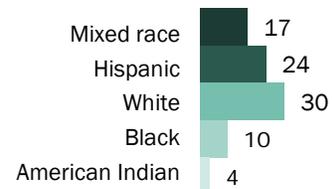
However, for multiracial Hispanics who choose one census race but say they consider their Hispanic background to also be part of their racial background, the survey's findings are very different. About half of these multiracial Hispanics (48%) say most people would think they are Hispanic if they passed them on the street. An additional 38% say they would be seen as white by most people, and just 8% say they would be seen as mixed race. About half of this group (48%) chooses white when asked about their own race, so it's not surprising that about four-in-ten believe others see them as white.

By comparison, 55% of non-Hispanic multiracial adults say most people would think they are white if they passed them on the street, 26% say they would be seen as black by most people, 8% as mixed race and just 3% as Hispanic. But these findings vary among non-Hispanic multiracial adults. For example, among non-Hispanic biracial adults who are white and black, 61% say most people would think they are single-race black if they passed them on the street. By contrast, among non-Hispanic biracial adults who are white and American Indian, 88% say most people would think they are white.

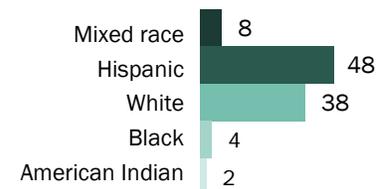
## How Multiracial Hispanics Think Others See Them

*% of Hispanic adults saying most people would describe them as ... if they walked past them on the street*

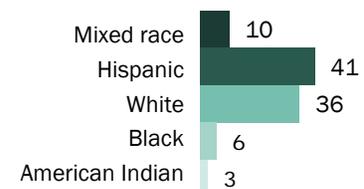
### Multiracial by 2+ races



### Multiracial by 1 race and Hispanic as race



### Combined multiracial group



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Other responses and those who gave no answer are not shown. Sample sizes are: 139 multiracial Hispanics by 2+ races, 261 multiracial Hispanics by 1 race and Hispanic as race, 400 combined multiracial Hispanic group.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb. 6-April 6, 2015

## Is a Multiracial Background an Advantage or a Disadvantage?

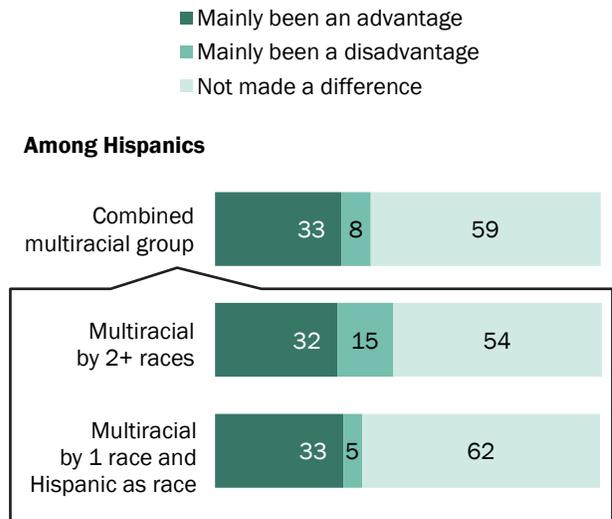
Like other multiracial adults, Hispanic multiracial adults are far more likely to say that having a racial background that includes more than one race has been an advantage in their lives than to say it has been a disadvantage. However, about half or more say it has not made a difference.

About a third (32%) of Hispanic adults who are multiracial because their background has two or more census races say their racial background has mainly been an advantage. A similar share (33%) says the same among Hispanics who consider their Hispanic background part of their racial background and also name one other census race in their background. This is nearly twice as large as the share (18%) of non-Hispanic multiracial adults who say the same.

By contrast, about one-in-six (15%) Hispanic adults who are multiracial by two or more census races say their multiracial background has mainly been a disadvantage. Among Hispanic adults who consider their Hispanic background part of their racial background and also name one other census race in their background, 5% say it has been a disadvantage in their life. By contrast, among multiracial non-Hispanic adults, just 3% say their multiracial background has mainly been a disadvantage.

### One-Third of Multiracial Hispanics Say Their Background Has Mainly Been an Advantage

*% saying having a racial background that includes more than one race has ...*



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Those who gave no answer are not shown. Sample sizes are: 139 multiracial Hispanics by 2+ races, 261 multiracial Hispanics by 1 race and Hispanic as race, 400 combined multiracial Hispanic group, 1,416 multiracial non-Hispanics by 2+ races.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb.6-April 6, 2015

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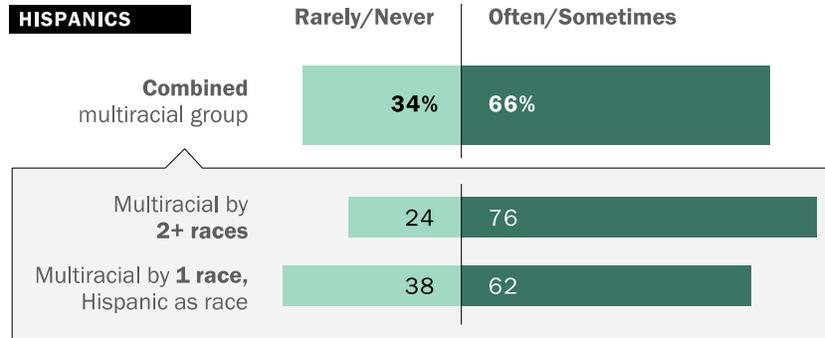
### Most Hispanic Multiracial Adults Have Felt Pride in Their Background

Compared with other mixed-race adults, Hispanic multiracial adults who are two or more races are more likely to say they have “often” or “sometimes” felt pride in their mixed-race background—76% say this. This is a higher share than that among Hispanic adults who consider their Hispanic background a race and also report one other race (62%). Among non-Hispanic multiracial adults, 58% say they have felt proud of their mixed-race background.

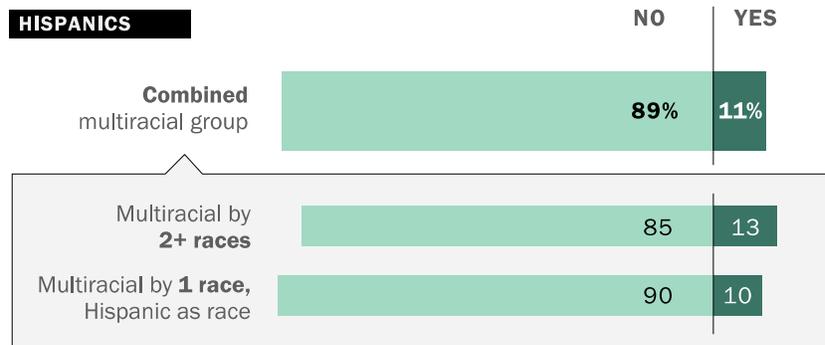
And across the two different groups of multiracial Hispanic adults, few say they have ever felt ashamed of their mixed-race background. Just 13% of Hispanics whose backgrounds includes two or more census races say this, as do 10% of Hispanics who consider their Hispanic background a race and also indicate one census race, and 8% of non-Hispanic multiracial adults.

### Mixed-Race Hispanics as Likely as Other Mixed-Race Adults to Have Felt Pride in Their Background

Percentage saying they have felt proud of their multiracial background ...



Percentage saying they have ever felt embarrassed or ashamed of their multiracial background, or not ...



Note: All races and Hispanic origin based on backgrounds of self, parents or grandparents. Those who gave no answer are not shown. Sample sizes are: 139 multiracial Hispanics by 2+ races, 261 multiracial Hispanics by 1 race and Hispanic as race, 400 combined multiracial Hispanic group, 1,416 multiracial non-Hispanics by 2+ races.

Source: Pew Research Center survey, Feb.6-April 6, 2015

## Asking Hispanics About Racial Identities Beyond Census Classifications

In the sections above, we looked at what it would mean to consider a Hispanic background a racial one. This reflects what many Hispanics themselves write in on the decennial census form and other surveys when they enter “Hispanic” or “Latino” or a Hispanic origin (such as Mexican) when asked to provide their race. It also leads to about one-in-six Hispanics being identified as mixed race, even though many would not adopt that term to describe themselves.

But other recent Pew Research Center work suggests that even this broader approach to race doesn’t capture the full depth and wide spectrum of views that Hispanics have of their own racial identity. This is in part because grouping together diverse communities and nationalities into a single group masks many of the differences among them.<sup>54</sup>

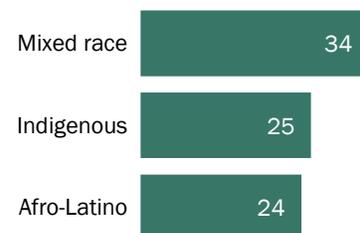
In the 2014 National Survey of Latinos (NSL), we approached Latinos’ views of race with an eye toward the specific ways that national and regional origin affects this view. Specifically, in that fall 2014 survey of 1,520 Latino adults,<sup>55</sup> we asked about racial background in three ways by asking respondents if they consider themselves Afro-Latino or Afro-Caribbean or, for example, Afro-Mexican. Similarly, we asked Latinos if their background includes roots among the indigenous peoples of the Americas, such as Native American, Mayan, Quechua or Taino. Finally, we also explored mixed-race identity among Latinos using mixed-race terms such as mestizo or mulatto, terms that are used in countries like Mexico to capture a mixed indigenous and European heritage. We asked respondents these questions about their own background and that of their parents and grandparents.<sup>56</sup>

When asked directly about their mixed-race background, about one-in-three (34%) Latino adults say they consider themselves to be mixed race—defined as belonging to more than one racial group, such as mestizo, mulatto or some other mixed race. This is more than five times the share of Latinos (6%) who indicate two or more races or volunteer that they are “mixed race” when they

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### Large Minorities of Hispanics Self-Identify as Mixed Race, Indigenous or Afro-Latino

*% of Hispanic adults who say they consider themselves ...*



Note: Hispanic is based on self-identification of Hispanic origin.

Source: Pew Research Center 2014 National Survey of Latinos, Sep. 11-Oct. 9, 2014 (N=1,520 Hispanic adults)

PEW RESEARCH CENTER NSL Q54,56,58

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<sup>54</sup> For more on Hispanic identity and diversity within the U.S. Hispanic community, see <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2012/04/04/when-labels-dont-fit-hispanics-and-their-views-of-identity/>

<sup>55</sup> The Pew Research Center’s 2014 National Survey of Latinos is a nationally representative bilingual telephone survey of 1,520 Hispanic adults. It was conducted from Sept. 11 to Oct. 9, 2014. For more on the survey’s methodology, see <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2014/10/29/appendix-b-national-survey-of-latinos-methodology/>

<sup>56</sup> These six racial identity questions were rotated in pairs. For a description of the question wording, see the text box on the next page.

are just asked to describe their race and told that they can select as many races as apply.<sup>57</sup> Looked at another way, among the 34% of Latinos who self-identify as mixed race, mestizo or mulatto, only 13% also indicate a racial background with two or more races or volunteer that they were “mixed race” on the standard race question. About half (46%) of this group indicates their race or one of their races is white, and 24% volunteer that their race or one of their races is Hispanic or Latino. Fully 42% choose white as their only race, and 20% choose Hispanic as their only race.

The NSL also finds that one-in-four (25%) Latino adults say they consider themselves indigenous or Native American, such as Maya, Nahua, Taino, Quiche, Aymara or Quechua, among others.<sup>58</sup> But here, too, this share is higher than the 2% of Latinos who volunteer their race (or one of their races) as indigenous or Native American in the NSL’s standard race question. And looked at a different way, among Latinos who say they consider themselves indigenous or Native American when asked directly, just 5% volunteer their race or one of their races as Native American on the standard race question, while 41% indicate white as their race or one of their races and 30% volunteer their race as Hispanic or Latino alone or in combination. Again, a relatively high share of this group (36%) chooses white alone in describing their race, and about a quarter (27%) chooses Hispanic alone.

### How the 2014 National Survey of Latinos asked about other racial identities

- *Do you consider yourself to be mixed race, that is, belonging to more than one racial group, such as mestizo, mulatto or some other mixed race, or not?*
- *Do you consider yourself to be Afro-Latino, Afro-Caribbean, or Afro-‘COUNTRY OF ORIGIN,’ or not? [INTEVIEWER READ AS NEEDED: “An Afro-Latino or Afro-Hispanic is Latino or Hispanic with black African ancestry”]*
- *Do you consider yourself to be indigenous or Native American, such as (Maya, Nahua, Taino, Quiche, Aymara, Quechua\*) or some other indigenous or Native American origin, or not?*

*\*Examples provided varied according to the respondent’s country or region of origin*

Note: For more detail on these questions and the exact phrasing, see 2014 National Survey of Latinos topline in Appendix D

<sup>57</sup> This estimate includes Latinos who volunteered that they were “mixed race,” “mestizo,” “mulatto” or some other mixed race or gave any two responses (including “Some other race” without specifying which race that was or volunteering “Hispanic” or “Latino” or a Hispanic origin as their race) to the standard NSL race question. For a more detailed explanation, see the text box at the end of this chapter.

<sup>58</sup> The NSL question about indigenous or Native American identity included a list of indigenous groups from Latin America, which varied according to the respondent’s specific Hispanic origin. The basic phrasing is included in the text box above.

Finally, the survey found that about one-in-four (24%) Latino adults say they consider themselves to be Afro-Latino, Afro-Caribbean or another Afro-Latino origin, such as Afro-Colombian or Afro-Mexican. By comparison, just 8% of Latino adults indicated that their race or one of their races was black on the standard NSL race question. And here too, Latinos who say they are Afro-Latino do not necessarily also indicate they are black on the standard race question. For example, among this group, 18% say their race or one of their races is black on the standard NSL race question, but 39% say their race is white alone or in combination and 24% volunteer Hispanic or Latino as their race or one of their races.

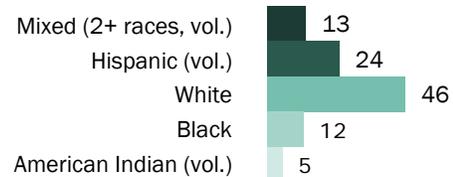
When considering these racial identities through grandparents, the share of Latino adults with these backgrounds increases. Four-in-ten Latino adults (40%) consider themselves mixed race or have a parent or grandparent who is mixed race, up from 34% when considering only the background of the respondent. One-third (33%) consider themselves indigenous or have an indigenous parent or grandparent, up from 25% when considering only the respondent's background. And 29% consider themselves Afro-Latino or have an Afro-Latino parent or grandparent, up from 24% when based on the respondent only.

These results shed light onto the multidimensionality of racial identity among Latinos and the challenges in capturing Hispanic racial identity through a standard race question.

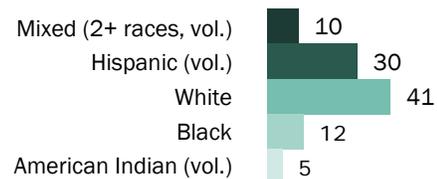
## How Do Mixed-Race, Afro-Latino and Indigenous Hispanics Report Their Race?

*% who mention .... as their race or one of their races in a standard race question*

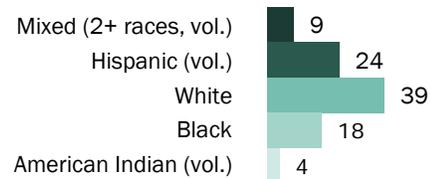
### Among those who consider themselves mixed race



### Among those who consider themselves indigenous



### Among those who consider themselves Afro-Latino



Note: Hispanic is based on self-identification of Hispanic origin. "Mixed (2+ races, vol.)" includes those who volunteered that they were "mixed race" or gave any two responses (including "Some other race" without specifying which race or volunteering "Hispanic" or "Latino" or a Hispanic origin as their race). Races are based on any mentions of Hispanic, white, black, Asian, and American Indian as single race or multiple-race responses and are not mutually exclusive. Other races and "Don't know/Refused" are not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center 2014 National Survey of Latinos, Sep. 11-Oct. 9, 2014 (N=1,520 Hispanic adults)

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NSL RACE,54,56,58

### Defining mixed-race Hispanic adults in the 2014 National Survey of Latinos

The 2014 National Survey of Latinos (NSL) identified mixed-race Hispanics in two ways. On the one hand, the NSL directly asked Hispanic adults whether they considered themselves to be mixed race, as mentioned in the chapter and in the box in this chapter. On the other hand, the NSL included the Pew Research Center's standard race question for telephone interviews, which allowed for multiple responses to race and also allowed respondents to volunteer their race as Hispanic/Latino or mixed-race. It also captured any other race responses given by the interviewee.

Based on the standard Pew Research race question, Hispanics identified as mixed-race includes Latinos who volunteered that they were "mixed race," "mestizo," "mulatto" or some other mixed race or gave any two responses (including "Some other race" without specifying which race that was or volunteering "Hispanic or Latino" or a Hispanic origin as their race) to the standard NSL race question.

*Which of the following describes your race? You can select as many as apply... White, Black or African American, Asian or Asian American or some other race.*

- 1 White (e.g., Caucasian, European, Irish, Italian, Arab, Middle Eastern)
- 2 Black or African-American (e.g., Negro, Kenyan, Nigerian, Haitian)
- 3 Asian or Asian-American (e.g., Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Vietnamese or other Asian origin groups)
- 4 Some other race (SPECIFY \_\_\_\_\_ IF NEEDED: What race or races is that?)
- 5 (DO NOT READ) Mixed race
- 6 (DO NOT READ) Hispanic/Latino (SPECIFY \_\_\_\_\_)
- 7 (DO NOT READ) Native American/American Indian/Alaska Native
- 8 (DO NOT READ) Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian
- D (DO NOT READ) Don't know
- R (DO NOT READ) Refused (e.g., non-race answers like American, Human, purple)

Interviewers accepted up to four responses. They coded them in the respective categories following Pew Research instructions and recorded verbatim responses for "Some other race" and "Hispanic or Latino" mentions. The survey provider (SSRS) and Pew Research Center reviewed and verified these classifications and corrected some responses to the race question as needed.

Using this procedure, mixed-race Hispanics identified in the NSL race question may include people who said they were "white and Mexican" or "black and Latino and Dominican" or "Irish and Mexican." Hispanic origin combinations such as "Puerto Rican and Cuban" are not counted as mixed race. In a few cases, when a verbatim response captured by interviewers was not clear, Pew Research used other survey questions, such as whether people considered themselves to be mixed race (Q54) and whether the respondent had a mixed Hispanic and non-Hispanic background through their parents and grandparents (Q52a, Q52b and Q53) to classify them as mixed-race or not.

For more on the survey's methodology, see <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2014/10/29/appendix-b-national-survey-of-latinos-methodology/>

## Appendix A: Survey Methodology

The analysis in this report is based on a Pew Research Center survey conducted online Feb. 6-April 6, 2015 among a probability based sample of 1,555 multiracial Americans ages 18 and older. The sample of multiracial adults was identified after contacting and collecting basic demographic information from 21,224 adults nationwide. For comparative purposes, an additional 1,495 adults from the general public were surveyed, including oversamples of 154 adults who are single-race black and non-Hispanic and 208 adults who are as single-race Asian and non-Hispanic.

The survey was conducted by the GfK Group for the Pew Research Center using KnowledgePanel, its nationally representative online research panel. KnowledgePanel members are recruited through probability sampling methods and include individuals both with and without internet access. KnowledgePanel provides internet access for those who do not have it and, if needed, a device to access the internet when they join the panel. A combination of random digit dialing (RDD) and address-based sampling (ABS) methodologies have been used to recruit panel members (in 2009 KnowledgePanel switched its sampling methodology for recruiting panel members from RDD to ABS). The panel includes households with landlines and cellular phones, including those only with cell phones, and those without a phone. Both the RDD and ABS samples were provided by Marketing Systems Group (MSG). KnowledgePanel continually recruits new panel members throughout the year to offset panel attrition as people leave the panel. The survey was conducted in English and Spanish.

All active members of the GfK panel were eligible for inclusion in this study. This project was divided into two stages. For Stage 1 a sample of general population adults age 18 and over was selected along with oversamples of non-Hispanic single-race blacks and Asians that were identified using GfK's panelist profile data. Stage 2 consisted of a general population sample that was split randomly into four replicates of approximately 8,000 panel members each.

Those selected for each replicate were asked their race or origin, the race or origin of their biological mother and father as well as the race or origin of their grandparents, great-grandparents and earlier ancestors. At each stage respondents could select more than one race or origin. In addition, those with a Hispanic background were asked if they considered Hispanic to be their race, their ethnicity, or both their race and ethnicity. Only those who were identified as having a mixed-race background based on these initial screening questions qualified to continue on to take the main multiracial survey. Slightly different qualifying criteria were used for some of the replicates, as described in the next section.

## I Defining Multiracial Adults

To determine their racial background, a series of five screening questions were asked of all 21,224 GfK panelists selected to participate in the online survey.

The first question asked individuals to select their own race or origin and is reproduced below as it appeared on the questionnaire. Respondents were asked about each of their biological parent's race or origin, their grandparents' race or origin, and the race or origin of great-grandparents or any earlier ancestors, if different than any of the races indicated in the previous questions. The same choice options, including the option to mark 'Hispanic,' were used in all five questions; to avoid repetition, the option list only appears with the first question. While respondents had the option to mark "Some other race or origin" in each question, the option to list any other race(s) or origin(s) was only offered on the first question. Respondents could mark as many races or origins as applied and were instructed to consider only the background of their biological parents, grandparents or earlier ancestors.

The screening questions were:

R1 What is your race or origin?

[Mark ONE OR MORE boxes.]

- a. White  
Examples: German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, and so on
- b. Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin  
Examples: Mexican or Mexican American, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Dominican, Salvadoran, Colombian, and so on
- c. Black or African American  
Examples: African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somalian, and so on
- d. Asian or Asian-American  
Examples: Chinese, Filipino, Asian Indian, Vietnamese, Korean, Japanese, and so on
- e. American Indian  
Examples: Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Mayan, Doyon, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, and so on
- f. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander  
Examples: Native Hawaiian, Samoan, Guamanian or Chamorro, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, and so on
- g. Some other race or origin  
List race(s) and/or origin(s)

R2 How would you describe your MOTHER'S race or origin?

[Please mark the race or races of your BIOLOGICAL OR BIRTH MOTHER and not a stepmother or adoptive mother.]

R3 How would you describe your FATHER'S race or origin?

[Please mark the race or races of your BIOLOGICAL OR BIRTH FATHER and not a stepfather or adoptive father.]

R4 How would you describe the races or origins of your GRANDPARENTS?

For example, to indicate all of your grandparents were white, only mark White. To indicate one was Asian and the rest were white, mark Asian and White. To indicate one was white and black and the remainder were Asian, mark White, Black and Asian. Please include ALL of the races that apply, including any you have already mentioned in previous answers.

[Please mark the races or origins of your BIOLOGICAL OR BIRTH GRANDPARENTS and not step-grandparents or adoptive grandparents.]

R5 Thinking about your family history, as far as you know were any of your GREAT GRANDPARENTS or EARLIER ANCESTORS a different race or origin than you, your parents or your grandparents?

ASK IF GREAT GRANDPARENTS OR EARLIER ANCESTORS WERE A DIFFERENT RACE: How would you describe the races or origins of your GREAT GRANDPARENTS or EARLIER ANCESTORS who were a different race or origin than you, your parents or your grandparents?

[Please indicate ONLY RACES OR ORIGINS OTHER THAN THOSE YOU HAVE GIVEN ABOUT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS IN PREVIOUS ANSWERS and only the races or origins of BIOLOGICAL OR BIRTH RELATIVES and not step or adoptive relatives]

Those with a Hispanic background as indicated in their responses to any of the previous five questions were asked:

R6 Which best describes your Hispanic background?

- 1 Being Hispanic is part of my RACIAL background, just like other people consider being black, white or Asian to be part of their racial background
- 2 Being Hispanic is part of my ETHNIC background, just like other people consider being Scandinavian, Irish or German to be part of their ethnic background
- 3 Being Hispanic is part of BOTH my racial and ethnic backgrounds
- 4 Don't know/unsure

To qualify as multiracial for the purposes of taking the survey (though the definitions used in the report are somewhat narrower), a panel member in Replicate 1 must have met one of the following criteria:

1. Selected two or more census races for themselves. The races are white, Black or African American, Asian or Asian American, American Indian, and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.
2. Did not fit the definition of multiracial based on criteria 1 but indicate any of the following:
  - At least one of their parents was not the same race as the one they selected for themselves.
  - Report that their parents were not the same race as each other.
  - Select two or more races for at least one of their parents.
3. Did not fit the definition of multiracial based on criteria 1 or 2 but indicate either of the following:
  - At least one of their grandparents was not the same race as themselves or their parents.
  - Select two or more races for their grandparents.
4. Did not fit the definition of multiracial based on criteria 1, 2 or 3 but indicate either of the following:
  - At least one of their great-grandparents or earlier ancestors was not the same race as themselves, their parents, or their grandparents.
  - Select two or more races for their great-grandparents or earlier ancestors.

In addition, Hispanics could continue on to take the full multiracial survey in Replicate 1 if they did not fit the definition of multiracial based on criteria 1-4 but considered being Hispanic a race and met one of the following criteria:

5. Selected Hispanic and one census race for themselves.
6. Did not fit the definition of multiracial based on criteria 5 but indicate any of the following:
  - At least one of their parents was Hispanic and one census race.
  - Select Hispanic and no census race for one parent and selected a census race but not Hispanic for the other parent.
  - Select Hispanic and no census race for themselves but report one census race for at least one of their parents
  - Select one census race and not Hispanic for themselves but report that at least one parent was Hispanic.
7. Did not fit the definition of multiracial based on criteria 5 or 6 but indicate any of the following:
  - Select Hispanic and one census race for their grandparents.
  - Select Hispanic and no census race for themselves or their parents but report a census race for their grandparents.
  - Select one census race and not Hispanic for themselves but report that a grandparent was Hispanic.
8. Did not fit the definition of multiracial based on criteria 5,6 or 7 but indicate any of the following:
  - Select one census race and Hispanic for their great-grandparents or earlier ancestors.
  - Select Hispanic and no census race for themselves, their parents or grandparent but indicate that at least one great-grandparent or earlier ancestor was one census race.
  - Select one census race and not Hispanic for themselves, their parents or grandparent but indicate that at least one great-grandparent or earlier ancestor was Hispanic.

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<b>Stage and Replicate</b>	<b>Number Sampled</b>	<b>Number Completed</b>	<b>Completion Rate</b>	<b>Number who Qualified</b>
Stage 1	2,729	1,495	54.8%	1,495*
Stage 2 Replicate 1	8,175	5,283	64.6%	756
Stage 2 Replicate 2	8,132	5,330	65.5%	460
Stage 2 Replicate 3	8,028	5,223	65.1%	393
Stage 2 Replicate 4	7,816	5,388	68.9%	498

\*Total in the general population survey sample and single-race black and Asian oversamples out of all GfK panel members who were assigned to the survey. For each of the four replicates, the number in this column reflects the number of respondents who qualified as multiracial out of the total number assigned to that replicate.

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In Replicates 2 and 4, a panel member would qualify to take the multiracial survey if they fit the definition of multiracial based on criteria 1-3 or 5-7. Those who only met the great grandparent or earlier ancestor criteria (4 and 8) did not qualify.

In Replicate 3, only those who met criteria 1-3 qualified for the multiracial survey.

For purposes of analysis, those who qualified as multiracial on the basis of the racial makeup of great-grandparents or earlier ancestors (criteria 4 and 8) were not part of the multiracial sample.

All sampled members received an initial email to notify them of the survey and provide a link to the survey questionnaire. Follow-up reminders were sent after three and seven days to those who had not yet responded.

## **II Weighting**

Individuals included in the Stage 1, nationally representative sample were first assigned base weights that account for their probability of selection from the overall panel. This includes weighting down single-race blacks and Asians to account for the fact that they were oversampled. Next, cases that completed the survey were weighted to match the March 2014 Current Population Survey (CPS) in order to correct for potential bias due to nonresponse.

The overall sample of respondents was weighted to match CPS estimates of the following characteristics:

- Age (18-29, 30-44, 45-59, 60+) by Gender
- Race/Ethnicity (White/ non-Hispanic, Black/ non-Hispanic, Other/ non-Hispanic, Hispanic, Mixed Races/non-Hispanic).
- Education (Less than high school graduate, high school graduate, Some college, Bachelor's degree or higher)
- Language Proficiency (English Proficient Hispanic, Bilingual Hispanic, Spanish Proficient Hispanic, Non-Hispanic) Language proficient distributions are based on Pew Research Center 2010-2012 data of U.S. Hispanic adults ages 18 and older.

Additionally, individual racial and ethnic groups were weighted to be internally representative on the following variables:

- Age (18-29, 30-44, 45-59, 60+)
- Gender (Male, Female)
- Census Region (Northeast, Midwest, South, West; Northeast and Midwest regions were combined for Hispanics]
- Metropolitan Status (Metro, Non-Metro; Hispanics were not weighted on this variable)
- Education (High school graduate or less, Some college, Bachelor's degree or higher)
- Household Income (under \$25,000, \$25,000-\$49,999, \$50,000-\$74,999, \$75,000+)

The groups were: non-Hispanic whites, non-Hispanic blacks, non-Hispanic other or mixed races, and Hispanic.

For the Stage 2 sample, the weighting process was similar. The full, sample of 21,224 respondents was weighted to be nationally representative using the characteristics listed above.

For the Stage 2 samples, five race/ethnicity groups were weighted to be internally representative: non-Hispanic whites, non-Hispanic blacks, non-Hispanic other, Hispanic, and non-Hispanic mixed races.

After the full Stage 2 sample was weighted to be nationally representative, respondents who did not qualify for inclusion in their replicate were removed. At this point, a final adjustment was made to account for the fact that the criteria for inclusion differed across replicates, ensuring individuals who qualified under different criteria were represented proportionally.

Details about the GfK panel-level weights can be found at:

<http://www.gfk.com/Documents/GfK-KnowledgePanel-Design-Summary.pdf>

### III Sampling Error and Design Effects

Weighting to adjust for disproportionate sampling and nonresponse reduces the precision of estimates beyond what would be achieved under simple random sampling. In this report, all measures of sampling error and statistical tests of significance take into account the design effect of weighting.

The margin of sampling error at the 95% confidence level for results based on the total Stage 2 sample (n=21,224) is plus or minus 1 percentage point.

The margin of sampling error for results based on the general population sample and single-race black and white oversamples (n=1,495) is plus or minus 3 percentage points.

The margin of sampling error for results based on the multiracial sample (n= 1,555) is plus or minus 3.8 percentage points.

The sample sizes and margins of sampling error for the six largest multiracial groups referenced in this report are:

	N	MoE
• Non-Hispanic white and American Indian	907	+/-4.9
• Non-Hispanic black and American Indian	128	+/-13.1
• Non-Hispanic white and black	118	+/-13.7
• Non-Hispanic white, black and American Indian	106	+/-14.4
• Non-Hispanic white and Asian	88	+/-15.8
• Multiracial Hispanics	139	+/-12.6

In addition to sampling error, question wording and the practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

## Appendix B: Explanation of Ancestry Analysis

We use information on respondent ancestry reported in the 1980-2000 decennial censuses and the 2010-2012 American Community Survey (ACS) to estimate the proportion of the population with two significantly different racial ancestries. The ancestry question is an open-ended question that allows respondents to report up to two ancestries. The three-year 2010-2012 ACS was used, rather than a single-year estimate, in order to have adequate sample size for small groups.

Using the 2010-2012 ACS for purposes of illustration, 227 detailed ancestries were enumerated. Loosely following work by sociologists Aaron Gullickson and Ann Morning<sup>59</sup>, the detailed ancestries (German, Jamaican, etc.) were collapsed into six racial ancestry categories. Respondents of “biracial ancestry” are defined as those whose first and second ancestries are different racial ancestries.

The racial ancestry categories include the five races designated by the Office of Management and Budget for use on federal surveys (white; black; American Indian and Alaska Native; Asian; and Pacific Islander, not including Hawaiian). The sixth category is a residual including the reported ancestry “mixture” and other detailed ancestries with no preponderant racial identification.

The detailed ancestries were mapped into the six racial ancestry categories using responses to the ACS race question. Detailed ancestries in which at least 75% of respondents identified with a single race on the race question were assigned to the corresponding racial ancestry. (In the 2010-2012 ACS, 83% of ancestries met that 75% threshold.) For example, 79% of ACS respondents with Ecuadorian ancestry identify themselves as white on the race question, so people with Ecuadorian ancestry are classified as white.

Ancestries such as Eurasian, Amerasian or Hawaiian were assigned to the mixture and other category because they do not have a dominant racial identity and a significant share of respondents identify as two or more races on the race question. The same assignment was made for many detailed Central American ancestries, where respondents often identify as “some other race” on the race question. Finally, most of those reporting American Indian ancestries were classified as American Indian and Alaska Native, even though those respondents were more likely to choose white than American Indian on the race question. The assignment was made in order to have adequate sample size for analysis.

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<sup>59</sup> See Gullickson, Aaron, and Ann Morning. 2011. “Choosing Race: Multiracial ancestry and identification,” *Social Science Research*, vol. 40, pp. 498-512.

Responses such as “United States,” “Texas,” and “North American” could not be assigned a racial ancestry and are not included in the analysis.

The accompanying table reports the racial and Hispanic question responses for people in five collapsed racial ancestry groups. Except for American Indians and Alaska Natives, the assigned racial ancestry generally matches respondents’ racial and ethnic identification. For example, 86% of respondents of white racial ancestry report themselves as non-Hispanic white on the race and ethnicity questions. Among those in the mixed and other category (not shown), 74% identified as Hispanic.

Morning and Gullickson also use ancestry data to estimate the size of the population of multiracial background. There are some notable differences between their analysis and this Pew Research Center analysis. They examine only responses of heads of households. Additionally, using a similar method to ours, they collapse the detailed ancestry responses down to 10 racial categories, rather than six. Nonetheless, we produce similar results: Their analysis of 1990 census data indicates that 3.1% of household heads have two different racial ancestries, and ours found that 2.9% of the 1990 population had two-race ancestry.

## 2000 Data on Ancestry

Due to an unusually low response to the ancestry question on the 2000 census, we provide an additional estimate of the size of the multiracial ancestry population for 2000 based on the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey (C2SS). In the 1980 and 1990 censuses and the 2010-2012 American Community Survey, nearly 90% of respondents reported at least one ancestry. In the 2000 census, 81% did.<sup>60</sup>

The C2SS was a pilot survey for the Census Bureau’s American Community Survey, which was designed to replace the decennial census long form with an annual data collection of the same

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## How Well Do Racial Ancestry Categories Match Racial Self-Identification?

*% of respondents from major racial ancestry groups with matching single-race responses*

Ancestry	Race
White	85.6
Black	96.2
Asian	87.7
Amer. Indian and Alaska Native	32.2
Pacific Islander	62.0

Note: Based on those who provided a racial ancestry (see text). Races are non-Hispanic. Pacific Islander excludes Hawaiians.

Source: Pew Research Center analysis of ancestry and race/ethnic responses from the 1980-2000 decennial censuses and 2010-2012 American Community Survey (IPUMS)

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<sup>60</sup> For details, see Brittingham, Angela, and G. Patricia de la Cruz. 2004. *Ancestry: 2000*. June. Census 2000 Brief C2KBR-35. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau. <http://www.census.gov/prod/2004pubs/c2kbr-35.pdf>

information. The ancestry question wording was identical on both the census and survey questionnaires.<sup>61</sup>

However, the 2000 census collected information from a far higher number of respondents, about 43 million, compared with about 330,000 for the C2SS. In addition, the C2SS included only the household population, while the 2000 census covered the entire U. S. resident population. In order to present comparable numbers, we analyzed only the household population from the 2000 census, excluding group quarters such as hospitals, college dormitories and prisons.

The 2000 census suggests that about 2.5% of the 2000 household population is of multiracial ancestry, compared with 3.4% of the population in the C2SS.

The C2SS estimate is substantially higher, in part, because of higher response to the ancestry question in that survey. A higher share of C2SS respondents provided an ancestry that could be mapped into a racial category—81%, compared with 73% of 2000 census respondents.

Three factors may help explain the higher response rate in the survey. Question wording was identical, but question placement differed. In the 2000 census, ancestry was asked before questions on nativity (place of birth and citizenship), whereas in C2SS ancestry followed the nativity questions. Second, if information was missing on the survey questionnaire, phone interviewers would try to contact respondents to obtain the information. In the 2000 census, due to time constraints and insufficient funding, follow-up was not done. Thirdly, the C2SS had a higher share of cases with interviewer assistance; the 2000 census had a higher share where respondents filled out their own forms.

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<sup>61</sup> Brittingham, Angela. 2008. Comparison of Data on Ancestry: Census 2000, C2SS, and 2005 ACS. January 7. Population Division of U.S. Census Bureau. [https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/working-papers/2008/acs/2008\\_Brittingham\\_01.pdf](https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/working-papers/2008/acs/2008_Brittingham_01.pdf)

## Appendix C: Multiracial Survey Topline

PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
SURVEY OF MULTIRACIAL AMERICANS  
FINAL TOPLINE  
FEBRUARY 6-APRIL 6, 2015

NOTE: ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN .5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (\*). COLUMNS/ROWS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING.

	Sample size	Margin of error at 95% confidence level
Multiracial adults <sup>62</sup>	1,555	+/-3.8
General public adults	1,495	+/-3.0

### ASK ALL

Q.1 All in all, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way things are going in your life today?

All Multiracial		General Public
81	Satisfied ( <b>NET</b> )	84
29	Very Satisfied	37
51	Somewhat satisfied	47
19	Not satisfied ( <b>NET</b> )	15
15	Not too satisfied	12
4	Not at all satisfied	3
*	Refused	1

### [RANDOMIZE Q.2a/2b/2c]

### ASK ALL

Q.2 Next, please tell us whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with the following aspects of your life.

a. Your family life

All Multiracial		General Public
87	Satisfied ( <b>NET</b> )	90
46	Very Satisfied	53
40	Somewhat satisfied	37
13	Not satisfied ( <b>NET</b> )	9
10	Not too satisfied	7
3	Not at all satisfied	2
1	Refused	1

<sup>62</sup> See the box preceding Q.17 for a definition of multiracial adults; see Appendix A for more detailed definitions, including an explanation of the "FILTER" variable referenced throughout this topline.

## Q.2 CONTINUED...

b. The quality of life in your community

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
80	Satisfied <b>(NET)</b>	86
29	Very Satisfied	37
51	Somewhat satisfied	49
19	Not satisfied <b>(NET)</b>	13
15	Not too satisfied	11
4	Not at all satisfied	2
*	Refused	1

c. The number of friends you have

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
83	Satisfied <b>(NET)</b>	86
47	Very Satisfied	46
36	Somewhat satisfied	40
17	Not satisfied <b>(NET)</b>	13
12	Not too satisfied	10
5	Not at all satisfied	3
*	Refused	1

## ASK ALL

Q.3 If you were asked to use one of these commonly used names for the social classes, which would you say you belong in? **[ROTATE ORDER OF RESPONSE ITEMS 1-5]**

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
11	Upper class <b>(NET)</b>	16
1	Upper class	1
10	Upper-middle class	15
50	Middle class	51
38	Lower class <b>(NET)</b>	32
30	Lower-middle class	26
8	Lower class	7
*	Refused	1

**[RANDOMIZE Q.4a/4b/4c/4d]****ASK ALL**

Q.4 Do you think each of the following trends is generally a **[RANDOMIZE: (good thing for our society), (a bad thing for our society)]**, or doesn't make much difference? **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF OPTIONS 1 AND 2 IN THE SAME ORDER AS THE QUESTION STEM; MAINTAIN SAME ORDER FOR ALL ITEMS A THROUGH D]**

a. More unmarried couples raising children

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
9	Good thing for society	6
42	Bad thing for society	48
49	Doesn't make much difference	45
1	Refused	2

b. More mothers of young children working outside the home

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
21	Good thing for society	22
34	Bad thing for society	36
44	Doesn't make much difference	41
1	Refused	1

c. More people of different races marrying each other

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
36	Good thing for society	29
9	Bad thing for society	11
55	Doesn't make much difference	59
1	Refused	1

d. More couples living together without getting married

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
8	Good thing for society	7
36	Bad thing for society	39
56	Doesn't make much difference	53
1	Refused	1

**[RANDOMIZE Q.5/6]****ASK ALL**

Q.5 Which comes closer to your view about the use of marijuana by adults? **[ROTATE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]**

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
49	It should be legal for medical AND personal use	38
33	It should be legal for medical use ONLY	36
17	It should NOT be legal	24
1	Refused	2

**ASK ALL**

Q.6 Which of these two statements comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right?  
**[ROTATE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]**

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
36	Racial discrimination is the main reason why many black people can't get ahead these days	30
62	Blacks who can't get ahead in this country are mostly responsible for their own condition	68
2	Refused	3

**[RANDOMIZE Q.7a/7b/7c]****ASK ALL**

Q.7 Thinking again about some trends in society. Do you think each of the following trends is generally **[RANDOMIZE IN SAME ORDER AS Q.4: (a good thing for our society), (a bad thing for our society)]**, or doesn't make much difference. **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF OPTIONS 1 AND 2 IN SAME ORDER AS Q.4 WITHIN EACH RESPONDENT; MAINTAIN SAME ORDER FOR ALL ITEMS A THROUGH C]**

a. More children who have parents of different races

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
32	Good thing for society	22
7	Bad thing for society	11
60	Doesn't make much difference	65
1	Refused	2

b. More children who have parents who are gay or lesbian

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
15	Good thing for society	12
38	Bad thing for society	40
46	Doesn't make much difference	46
1	Refused	1

c. More single women having children without a partner to help raise them

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
4	Good thing for society	4
67	Bad thing for society	66
29	Doesn't make much difference	29
*	Refused	1

**[RANDOMIZE Q.8a/8b/8c/8d/8e/8f]****ASK ALL**

Q.8 Now we want you to think about your own personal identity, that is, the various ways that you define yourself as a person. How important are each of these characteristics to your own personal identity?

## a. Your religion

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
39	Essential to your identity	39
29	Important but NOT essential	31
30	Not too important	29
1	Refused	2

## b. Your gender

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
50	Essential to your identity	51
31	Important but NOT essential	31
18	Not too important	15
1	Refused	2

## c. Your racial background

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
26	Essential to your identity	28
39	Important but NOT essential	39
34	Not too important	32
1	Refused	2

## d. Your political affiliation

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
10	Essential to your identity	11
44	Important but NOT essential	42
46	Not too important	45
1	Refused	2

## e. Your occupation

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
18	Essential to your identity	20
48	Important but NOT essential	50
33	Not too important	28
1	Refused	2

**Q.8 CONTINUED...**

f. Your family's ancestry or country of origin

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
23	Essential to your identity	24
45	Important but NOT essential	42
31	Not too important	32
1	Refused	2

**ASK ALL**

Q.9 How would you describe your household's financial situation? Do you ...

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
24	Live comfortably	31
43	Meet your basic expenses with a little left over for extras	40
23	Just meet your basic expenses	20
8	Don't even have enough to meet basic expenses	8
1	Refused	1

**BASED ON THOSE WHO REPORT MORE THAN ONE RACE FOR THEMSELVES [FILTER=1]:<sup>63</sup>**

Q.10a Have you always thought of yourself as more than one race, or was there a time in your life when you thought of yourself as only one race?

69	Always thought of myself as more than one race
29	Previously thought of myself as only one race
2	Refused

**(n=639)****BASED ON THOSE WHO DO NOT REPORT MORE THAN ONE RACE FOR THEMSELVES, BUT HAVE A MULTIRACIAL BACKGROUND WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED [FILTER=2 OR 3]:<sup>64</sup>**

Q.10b Have you always thought of yourself as only one race, or was there a time in your life when you thought of yourself as more than one race?

70	Always thought of myself as only one race
29	Previously thought of myself as more than one race
1	Refused

**(n=884)**

<sup>63</sup> This question was also asked of Hispanic respondents who reported one race for themselves, but who said they consider their Hispanic background to be a race. For results based on this group, see Chapter 7.

<sup>64</sup> This question was also asked of respondents who only reported one race when all the races for themselves, their parents and grandparents were considered, but who indicated that a great-grandparent or earlier ancestor was of a different race, as well as Hispanic respondents who reported one race when all the races for themselves, their parents, grandparents and earlier ancestors were considered, but who said they consider their Hispanic background to be a race. For results based on the Hispanic group, see Chapter 7.

**[RANDOMIZE Q.11a/11b/11c/11d/11e/11f]****ASK ALL**

Q.11 In general, how much do you have in common with people in the United States who are each of the following races or origins?

## a. White

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
44	A lot in common	47
40	Some in common	34
12	Only a little in common	11
4	Nothing at all in common	7
1	Refused	1

## b. Hispanic or Latino

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
12	A lot in common	16
39	Some in common	39
28	Only a little in common	28
21	Nothing at all in common	16
1	Refused	1

## c. Black or African American

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
25	A lot in common	14
37	Some in common	39
21	Only a little in common	28
16	Nothing at all in common	18
1	Refused	1

## d. Asian or Asian-American

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
8	A lot in common	9
32	Some in common	33
28	Only a little in common	30
31	Nothing at all in common	26
1	Refused	1

## e. American Indian

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
16	A lot in common	8
41	Some in common	32
30	Only a little in common	35
12	Nothing at all in common	24
1	Refused	1

## Q.11 CONTINUED...

**BASED ON ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:<sup>65</sup>**

f. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
---	A lot in common	---
---	Some in common	---
---	Only a little in common	---
---	Nothing at all in common	---
---	Refused	---
<b>(n=47)</b>		<b>(n=5)</b>

**DISPLAY FOR ALL**

Now thinking again about some issues in today's society...

**[RANDOMIZE Q.12 THROUGH Q.14]****ASK ALL**

Q.12 Which of these two statements comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right?

**[ROTATE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]**

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
44	Government aid to the poor does more harm than good, by making people too dependent on government assistance	54
54	Government aid to the poor does more good than harm, because people can't get out of poverty until their basic needs are met	44
2	Refused	2

**ASK ALL**

Q.13 What do you think is more important? **[ROTATE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]**

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
54	Protecting the right of Americans to own guns	48
45	Controlling gun ownership	50
1	Refused	2

**ASK ALL**

Q.14 Do you think abortion should be... **[ROTATE OPTIONS 1 THROUGH 4]**

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
25	Legal in ALL cases	21
30	Legal in MOST cases	30
31	Illegal in MOST cases	33
14	Illegal in ALL cases	15
1	Refused	2

<sup>65</sup> Respondents who said they had a great grandparent or earlier ancestor who was Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander were also asked this question.

**[RANDOMIZE Q.15a/15b/15c/15d/15e/15f IN THE SAME ORDER AS Q.11 WITHIN EACH RESPONDENT]**

**ASK ALL**

Q.15 How much discrimination do you think there is TODAY against people in the United States who are of each of the following races or origins?

a. White

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
9	A lot of discrimination	5
30	Some discrimination	30
33	Only a little discrimination	31
28	No discrimination at all	32
*	Refused	1

b. Hispanic or Latino

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
26	A lot of discrimination	18
48	Some discrimination	50
19	Only a little discrimination	23
7	No discrimination at all	7
*	Refused	2

c. Black or African American

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
41	A lot of discrimination	26
38	Some discrimination	47
15	Only a little discrimination	20
6	No discrimination at all	6
1	Refused	1

d. Asian or Asian-American

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
7	A lot of discrimination	5
43	Some discrimination	44
37	Only a little discrimination	37
12	No discrimination at all	13
*	Refused	1

## Q.15 CONTINUED...

e. American Indian

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
20	A lot of discrimination	13
45	Some discrimination	44
25	Only a little discrimination	29
11	No discrimination at all	13
*	Refused	1

**BASED ON ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:<sup>66</sup>**

f. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
---	A lot of discrimination	---
---	Some discrimination	---
---	Only a little discrimination	---
---	No discrimination at all	---
---	Refused	---
<b>(n=47)</b>		<b>(n=5)</b>

**DISPLAY FOR ALL**

Now thinking about your own racial background...

**[RANDOMIZE Q.16a/16b/16c/16d/16e]****ASK ALL**

Q.16 For each of the following, please indicate whether or not it has happened to you because of your racial background.

a. Been threatened or physically attacked

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
3	Yes, has happened in the PAST 12 MONTHS	2
27	Yes, has happened but not in the past 12 months	17
70	No, has never happened	80
*	Refused	1

b. Been subject to slurs or jokes

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
12	Yes, has happened in the PAST 12 MONTHS	10
43	Yes, has happened but not in the past 12 months	30
45	No, has never happened	59
*	Refused	1

<sup>66</sup> Respondents who said they had a great grandparent or earlier ancestor who was Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander were also asked this question.

## Q.16 CONTINUED...

c. Been treated unfairly by an employer in hiring, pay, or promotion

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
6	Yes, has happened in the PAST 12 MONTHS	5
27	Yes, has happened but not in the past 12 months	18
67	No, has never happened	76
*	Refused	1

d. Been unfairly stopped by police

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
7	Yes, has happened in the PAST 12 MONTHS	3
18	Yes, has happened but not in the past 12 months	13
75	No, has never happened	83
*	Refused	1

e. Received poor service in restaurants, hotels or other places of business

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
11	Yes, has happened in the PAST 12 MONTHS	10
32	Yes, has happened but not in the past 12 months	21
57	No, has never happened	68
*	Refused	1

**-----BEGIN SECTION ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS-----**

For questions 17a through 33a, responses are shown only for respondents who fit the multiracial definition used throughout the majority of the Pew Research Center report (n=1,555). This includes (1) those who select two or more races, for themselves; (2) those who do not select two or more races for themselves but select two or more races for at least one of their biological parents, or indicate that at least one of their parents was not the same race as the one they selected for themselves; (3) respondents who do not fit the definition of multiracial based on their own or their parents' racial background, but indicate that at least one of their grandparents was not the same race as themselves or their parents, or select two or more races for their grandparents.

This series of questions was also asked of respondents who only reported one race when all the races for themselves, their parents and grandparents were considered, but who indicated that a great-grandparent or earlier ancestor was of a different race. In addition, these questions were asked of Hispanic respondents who only reported one race when all the races for themselves, their parents, grandparents and earlier ancestors were considered but who said they consider their Hispanic background to be a race instead of or in addition to being an ethnicity. Where appropriate, results for these groups are presented in the report. Results for these Hispanic respondents are presented mainly in Chapter 7 of the report.

For more information on these groups and a more detailed explanation about how we defined multiracialism, see Appendix A.

**ASK IF HISPANIC (R1b=1): [n=103]**

Q.17a Do you consider yourself to be mixed race or multiracial, that is more than one race, such as mestizo, mulatto or some other mixed race, or not?

**ASK IF NOT HISPANIC (R1b NE 1): [n=1,452]**

Q.17b Do you consider yourself to be mixed race or multiracial, that is more than one race, or not?<sup>67</sup>

**BASED ON ALL MULTIRACIAL ADULTS: [n=1,555]**

39	Yes, mixed race or multiracial
61	No, not mixed race or multiracial
*	Refused

<sup>67</sup> Questions 17a and 17b were also asked of the general public.

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHO DON'T CONSIDER SELF MULTIRACIAL (Q.17a=2 OR****Q.17b=2): [n=854]**

Q.18 You indicated [**IF FILTER=1**: that you are more than one race/**IF FILTER=2-3**: that you have a racial background that includes more than one race] but you do NOT consider yourself mixed race or multiracial. Is this because... [Mark **ONE OR MORE** boxes.] [**RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 THROUGH 4**]

a. You closely identify with one race

39 Selected  
60 Not selected  
1 Refused all items a-e

b. You look like one race

47 Selected  
52 Not selected  
1 Refused all items a-e

c. You never knew your family member or ancestor who was a different race

34 Selected  
65 Not selected  
1 Refused all items a-e

d. You were raised as one race

47 Selected  
51 Not selected  
1 Refused all items a-e

e. Some other reason [List other reason(s)]

13 Selected  
4 Race is subjective/ shouldn't matter/not important to me  
2 Ancestry is too far back/Family doesn't follow traditions  
2 I just don't identify with multiracial part of heritage  
1 Most people are multiracial  
2 Other  
2 I don't have a multiracial background/Uncodable  
86 Not selected  
1 Refused all items a-e

**BASED ON ALL MULTIRACIAL ADULTS**

Q.19 How would most people describe you, for example, if they walked past you on the street? Would they say you are... [Select **ONLY ONE** answer.] **[DO NOT RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTION 1 THROUGH 7]**

52	White
5	Hispanic or Latino
24	Black or African American
2	Asian or Asian-American
5	American Indian
1	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
9	Mixed race or multiracial
1	Refused

**[ROTATE Q.20a and Q.20b]****BASED ON ALL MULTIRACIAL ADULTS**

Q.20 In general, thinking about people with racial backgrounds that include more than one race, how much do you think you have in common with...

a. People who are the **SAME** mix of races as you?

34	A lot in common
47	Some in common
13	Only a little in common
4	Nothing at all in common
2	Refused

b. People who are a **DIFFERENT** mix of races than you?

17	A lot in common
55	Some in common
20	Only a little in common
7	Nothing at all in common
1	Refused

**[RANDOMIZE Q.21a/21b/21c]****BASED ON ALL MULTIRACIAL ADULTS**

Q.21 Have you ever felt pressure to choose one of the races in your background over another from the following groups of people, or not?

a. Family members

11	Yes, have felt pressure
88	No, have not felt pressure
1	Refused

**Q.21 CONTINUED...**

## b. Friends

9	Yes, have felt pressure
90	No, have not felt pressure
2	Refused

## c. Society in general

15	Yes, have felt pressure
83	No, have not felt pressure
1	Refused

**BASED ON ALL MULTIRACIAL ADULTS**

Q.22 Thinking about when you were growing up, how often, if ever, did your parents talk to you about having a racial background that includes more than one race?

8	Often
24	Sometimes
36	Rarely
31	Never
1	Refused

**DISPLAY FOR ALL**

Thinking only about any biological children you may have, and not any adopted children or stepchildren...

**BASED ON ALL MULTIRACIAL ADULTS**

KIDS1 Do you have any biological children under age 18?

28	Yes, I have biological children under age 18
3	No, I only have stepchildren or adopted children under age 18
68	No, I do not have any children under age 18
1	Refused

**BASED ON ALL MULTIRACIAL ADULTS**

KIDS2 Do you have any biological ADULT children age 18 or older, including any who live on their own?

41	Yes, I have biological children age 18 or older
4	No, I only have stepchildren or adopted children age 18 or older
54	No, I do not have any children age 18 or older
1	Refused

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WITH AT LEAST ONE BIOLOGICAL CHILD UNDER AGE 18  
[KIDS1=1]:**

KIDSAGE What is the age of your OLDEST biological child [IF KIDS2=1: who is under age 18]?

17	0-4 years old
41	5-12 years old
42	13-17 years old
0	Refused

(n=346)

**DISPLAY FOR MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WITH AT LEAST ONE MINOR OR ADULT BIOLOGICAL CHILD  
[KIDS1=1 OR KIDS2=1]:**

Again thinking about your biological children and not any adopted children or stepchildren you may have...

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WITH AT LEAST ONE MINOR OR ADULT BIOLOGICAL CHILD  
[KIDS1=1 OR KIDS2=1]:**

Q.23 Has anyone ever assumed you were not your child's parent because they thought you and your child had different racial backgrounds, or has this not happened to you?

16	Yes, has happened
83	No, has not happened
1	Refused

(n=1,036)

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WITH AT LEAST ONE BIOLOGICAL CHILD AGES 5-17  
[KIDS1=1 AND KIDSAGE=2-3]:**

Q.24a [IF KIDS2=1: Thinking about your children younger than 18...] How often, if ever, have you talked to your children about having a racial background that includes more than one race?

21	Often
26	Sometimes
27	Rarely
27	Never
*	Refused

(n=282)

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WITH AT LEAST ONE BIOLOGICAL CHILD AGES 18+ [KIDS2=1]:**

Q.24b [IF KIDS1=1: Thinking now about your children ages 18 and older...] How often, if ever, did you talk to your children when they were growing up about having a racial background that includes more than one race?

17	Often
29	Sometimes
28	Rarely
26	Never
*	Refused

(n=778)

**[RANDOMIZE Q.25a/25b/25c/25d]**  
**BASED ON ALL MULTIRACIAL ADULTS**

Q.25 How often, if ever, have you experienced any of the following things because you have a racial background that includes more than one race?

- a. Felt like an "outsider" because you have a racial background that includes more than one race

3	Often
9	Sometimes
16	Rarely
71	Never
*	Refused

- b. Felt that people are confused about your racial background

8	Often
16	Sometimes
15	Rarely
60	Never
*	Refused

- c. Felt proud that you have a racial background that includes more than one race

29	Often
31	Sometimes
16	Rarely
24	Never
*	Refused

- d. Felt annoyed because someone made assumptions about your racial background

8	Often
16	Sometimes
20	Rarely
56	Never
*	Refused

**[RANDOMIZE Q.26a/26b/26c/26d]**  
**BASED ON ALL MULTIRACIAL ADULTS**

Q.26 Have you ever experienced any of the following things because you have a racial background that includes more than one race, or not?

- a. Felt like you are more understanding of people of different racial backgrounds

55	Yes, have experienced this
45	No, have not experienced this
*	Refused

**Q.26 CONTINUED ...**

- b. Felt that you are more open to cultures other than your own

59 Yes, have experienced this  
 40 No, have not experienced this  
 \* Refused

- c. Felt like you were a go-between or "bridge" between different racial groups

19 Yes, have experienced this  
 80 No, have not experienced this  
 \* Refused

- d. Felt embarrassed or ashamed about your racial background

8 Yes, have experienced this  
 91 No, have not experienced this  
 \* Refused

**[RANDOMIZE ITEMS A THROUGH F IN THE SAME ORDER AS Q.11 WITHIN EACH RESPONDENT]**

Q.27 Thinking about the different races or origins that make up your background. In general, how well do you feel you are accepted by people who are...

- a. White

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING WHITE WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED.<sup>68</sup>**

63 Very well  
 28 Somewhat well  
 6 Not too well  
 2 Not at all well  
 1 Refused

**(n=1,395)**

- b. Hispanic or Latino

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING HISPANIC OR LATINO WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:**

42 Very well  
 31 Somewhat well  
 13 Not too well  
 9 Not at all well  
 6 Refused

**(n=139)**

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<sup>68</sup> For each item a-f, respondents who said they had a great grandparent or earlier ancestor who was that particular race or origin were also asked this question, but their responses are not included here unless they also reported this for themselves or their parents or grandparents.

## Q.27 CONTINUED ...

c. Black or African American

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING BLACK WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:**

55	Very well
30	Somewhat well
7	Not too well
4	Not at all well
3	Refused

**(n=429)**

d. Asian-American

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING ASIAN WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:**

39	Very well
38	Somewhat well
15	Not too well
8	Not at all well
1	Refused

**(n=162)**

e. American Indian

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING AMERICAN INDIAN WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:**

32	Very well
43	Somewhat well
15	Not too well
10	Not at all well
1	Refused

**(n=1,258)**

f. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:**

---	Very well
---	Somewhat well
---	Not too well
---	Not at all well
---	Refused

**(n=47)**

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHOSE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IS SOME COLLEGE OR MORE:**

Q.28 Have you ever described your racial background differently than you normally would in order to get into college or qualify for scholarships, or have you not done this?

5	Yes, have done this
94	No, have not done this
1	Refused

(n=1,202)

**[RANDOMIZE Q.29a/29b/29c/29d]****BASED ON ALL MULTIRACIAL ADULTS**

Q.29 Have you ever done any of the following things to try to influence how others see your race, or not?

a. Dressed a certain way

11	Yes, have done this
87	No, have not done this
1	Refused

b. Talked a certain way

12	Yes, have done this
87	No, have not done this
1	Refused

c. Worn your hair a certain way

11	Yes, have done this
88	No, have not done this
1	Refused

d. Associated with certain people

11	Yes, have done this
87	No, have not done this
1	Refused

**BASED ON ALL MULTIRACIAL ADULTS**

Q.30 As a child growing up, how often, if ever, were you teased or made fun of because you have a racial background that includes more than one race?

4	Often
11	Sometimes
15	Rarely
69	Never
1	Refused

**BASED ON ALL MULTIRACIAL ADULTS**

Q.31 Has a relative or anyone in your extended family ever treated you badly because you have a racial background that includes more than one race, or hasn't this happened to you?

9	Yes, has happened
90	No, has not happened
1	Refused

**[RANDOMIZE Q.32a/32b/32c/32d/32e/32f IN THE SAME ORDER AS Q.11 WITHIN EACH RESPONDENT]**

Q.32 Over the course of your life, how much contact, if any, have you had with your relatives who are...

a. White

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING WHITE WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:<sup>69</sup>**

64	A lot of contact
16	Some contact
10	Only a little contact
10	No contact at all
*	Refused

**(n=1,395)**

b. Hispanic or Latino

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING HISPANIC OR LATINO WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:**

47	A lot of contact
25	Some contact
12	Only a little contact
9	No contact at all
7	Refused

**(n=139)**

c. Black or African American

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING BLACK WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:**

69	A lot of contact
16	Some contact
7	Only a little contact
5	No contact at all
3	Refused

**(n=429)**

---

<sup>69</sup> For each item a-f, respondents who said they had a great grandparent or earlier ancestor who was that particular race or origin were also asked this question, but their responses are not included here unless they also reported this for themselves or their parents or grandparents.

## Q.32 CONTINUED ...

d. Asian or Asian-American

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING ASIAN WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:**

32	A lot of contact
29	Some contact
20	Only a little contact
18	No contact at all
2	Refused

**(n=162)**

e. American Indian

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING AMERICAN INDIAN WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:**

17	A lot of contact
22	Some contact
23	Only a little contact
38	No contact at all
1	Refused

**(n=1,258)**

f. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

**BASED ON MULTIRACIAL ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:**

---	A lot of contact
---	Some contact
---	Only a little contact
---	No contact at all
---	Refused

**(n=47)****BASED ON ALL MULTIRACIAL ADULTS**

Q.33a Overall, do you think having a racial background that includes more than one race has been mainly **[ROTATE: (an advantage) or (a disadvantage)]** in your life, or has it not made a difference?  
**[ROTATE ORDER OF OPTIONS 1 AND 2 IN THE SAME ORDER AS THE QUESTION STEM]**

19	Advantage
4	Disadvantage
76	Hasn't made a difference
1	Refused

-----**END SERIES FOR MULTIRACIAL ADULTS**-----

**ASK IF ONLY ONE RACE WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS AND EARLIER ANCESTORS WERE CONSIDERED [FILTER=0]**

Q.33b Overall, do you think your racial background has been mainly [ROTATE: (an advantage) or (a disadvantage)] in your life, or has it not made a difference? [ROTATE ORDER OF OPTIONS 1 AND 2 IN THE SAME ORDER AS THE QUESTION STEM]

		General
		<u>Public</u>
---	Advantage	26
---	Disadvantage	7
---	Hasn't made a difference	65
---	Refused	2
		(n=1,203)

**[RANDOMIZE Q.34a/34b/34c/34d/34e/34f IN THE SAME ORDER AS Q.11 WITHIN EACH RESPONDENT; ITEM G ALWAYS COMES LAST]**

**ASK ALL**

Q.34 How many of your CLOSE FRIENDS are...

a. White

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
11	All of them	16
38	Most of them	43
41	Some of them	30
8	None of them	8
2	Refused	3

b. Hispanic or Latino

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
1	All of them	4
7	Most of them	8
55	Some of them	51
34	None of them	35
2	Refused	2

c. Black or African American

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
6	All of them	4
16	Most of them	7
54	Some of them	54
23	None of them	34
1	Refused	2

## Q.34 CONTINUED...

## d. Asian or Asian-American

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
1	All of them	1
2	Most of them	4
44	Some of them	38
52	None of them	54
1	Refused	3

## e. American Indian

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
1	All of them	1
2	Most of them	1
39	Some of them	23
57	None of them	73
1	Refused	2

**BASED ON ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:<sup>70</sup>**

## f. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
---	All of them	---
---	Most of them	---
---	Some of them	---
---	None of them	---
---	Refused	---
<b>(n=47)</b>		<b>(n=5)</b>

## g. Mixed race or multiracial

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
3	All of them	1
13	Most of them	5
64	Some of them	56
18	None of them	36
2	Refused	2

<sup>70</sup> Respondents who said they had a great grandparent or earlier ancestor who was Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander were also asked this question.

[RANDOMIZE Q.35a/35b/35c/35d/35e/35f IN THE SAME ORDER AS Q.11 WITHIN EACH RESPONDENT; ITEM G ALWAYS COMES LAST]

ASK ALL

Q.35 How many of the PEOPLE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD are...

a. White

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
11	All of them	12
43	Most of them	46
40	Some of them	35
4	None of them	4
2	Refused	3

b. Hispanic or Latino

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
1	All of them	3
13	Most of them	12
57	Some of them	56
26	None of them	27
2	Refused	3

c. Black or African American

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
3	All of them	2
12	Most of them	8
60	Some of them	62
23	None of them	26
3	Refused	2

d. Asian or Asian-American

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
1	All of them	*
3	Most of them	2
49	Some of them	50
44	None of them	44
2	Refused	3

e. American Indian

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
*	All of them	1
2	Most of them	2
33	Some of them	22
63	None of them	73
2	Refused	3

## Q.35 CONTINUED...

**BASED ON ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED:<sup>71</sup>**

f. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
---	All of them	---
---	Most of them	---
---	Some of them	---
---	None of them	---
---	Refused	---
<b>(n=47)</b>		<b>(n=5)</b>

g. Mixed race or multiracial

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
1	All of them	1
10	Most of them	4
68	Some of them	62
20	None of them	30
2	Refused	3

**DISPLAY FOR ALL**

Now some questions on other issues in today's society...

**[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q.36 THROUGH Q.38]****ASK ALL**Q.36 If you had to choose, would you rather have... **[ROTATE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]**

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
50	A smaller government providing fewer services	52
46	A bigger government providing more services	45
4	Refused	3

**ASK ALL**

Q.37 Which of these two statements comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right?

**[ROTATE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]**

All <u>Multiracial</u>		General <u>Public</u>
52	Immigrants today strengthen our country because of their hard work and talents	52
45	Immigrants today are a burden on our country because they take our jobs, housing and health care	45
2	Refused	3

<sup>71</sup> Respondents who said they had a great grandparent or earlier ancestor who was Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander were also asked this question.

**ASK ALL**

Q.38 In general, what do you think should be the punishment for people convicted of murder?  
**[ROTATE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]**

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
26	Death penalty	25
19	Life in prison with no chance of parole	20
54	Depends on the circumstances	53
1	Refused	2

**DISPLAY IF MARRIED OR LIVING WITH A PARTNER FROM GfK MARITAL STATUS [PPMARIT=1,6]:**

Now just a few more questions...

**ASK IF MARRIED OR LIVING WITH A PARTNER FROM GfK MARITAL STATUS [PPMARIT=1,6]:**

R7 How would you describe your **[IF PPMARIT=1]: SPOUSE'S/IF PPMARIT=6: PARTNER'S** race or origin? [Mark **ONE OR MORE** boxes.]

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
59	White only	70
16	Black or African American only	7
2	Asian or Asian-American only	4
2	American Indian only	*
0	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only	*
6	Hispanic or Latino only (no race)	14
12	Two or more races	2
3	Some other race/Refused	2
<b>(n=930)</b>		<b>(n=914)</b>

**DISPLAY IF NOT MARRIED AND NOT LIVING WITH A PARTNER FROM GfK MARITAL STATUS**

**[PPMARIT NE 1 AND PPMARIT NE 6]:**

Now just a few more questions...

**ASK ALL**

ATTEND Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
15	More than once a week	11
18	Once a week	21
7	Once or twice a month	8
13	A few times a year	14
24	Seldom	22
22	Never	22
1	Refused	2

**ASK ALL**

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a...

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
17	Republican	26
37	Democrat	35
28	Independent	26
16	Something else	10
2	Refused	2

**ASK IF NOT REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT [PARTY=3,4, MISSING]:**

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to...

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
43	The Republican Party	39
45	The Democratic Party	45
13	Refused	15
<b>(n=734)</b>		<b>(n=556)</b>

**PARTY/PARTYLN COMBO TABLE, BASED ON TOTAL**

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
37	Republican/Leaned Rep.	41
57	Democrat/Leaned Dem.	53
6	Refused to lean	6

**ASK ALL**

IDEO In general, would you describe your political views as...

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
7	Very conservative	7
21	Conservative	25
48	Moderate	45
14	Liberal	16
8	Very liberal	4
3	Refused	3

**ASK ALL**

BORN Were you born in ...

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u> <sup>72</sup>
91	The United States, other than Puerto Rico	82
6	Another country	15
1	Puerto Rico	1
1	Other U.S. territories (including Guam, Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands)	*
1	Refused	2
<b>(n=1,555)</b>		<b>(n=1,187)</b>

**Question R6**

As part of an experiment, we asked all survey respondents with a Hispanic background whether they consider that background to be a part of their racial background, their ethnic background or both. Their answers were used to create a broader definition of “multiracial adults” that includes Hispanic respondents who only reported one race for themselves, their parents and grandparents but who said they consider their Hispanic background to be a race instead of or in addition to being an ethnicity.

Question R6 was asked at the beginning of the survey after questions about the races or origins of the respondent, their mother, father, grandparents and earlier ancestors, but before any substantive questions on their attitudes about or experiences with race. Since this was part of the series used to qualify respondents for the survey, it was asked of a much larger sample than the questionnaire as a whole. The general public figures shown here reflect all persons sampled in stage 2 of the data collection, regardless of whether they qualified for the main questionnaire.

For more information on question R6 and a more detailed explanation about how we defined multiracialism, see Appendix A.

**BASED ON ADULTS WHO REPORT BEING HISPANIC WHEN ALL THE RACES OF THEMSELVES, THEIR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS ARE COUNTED (R1b=1 OR R2b=1 OR R3b=1 OR R4b=1):<sup>73</sup>**

R6 Which best describes your Hispanic background? [ROTATE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]

All		General
<u>Multiracial</u>		<u>Public</u>
15	Being Hispanic is part of my RACIAL background, just like other people consider being black, white or Asian to be part of their racial background	12
25	Being Hispanic is part of my ETHNIC background, just like other people consider being Scandinavian, Irish or German to be part of their ethnic background	20
31	Being Hispanic is part of BOTH my racial and ethnic backgrounds	53
26	Don't know/unsure	14
2	Refused	*
<b>(n=139)</b>		<b>(n=2,642)</b>

<sup>72</sup> For the general public, the variable BORN is missing among 308 respondents due to an earlier omission in the online survey.

<sup>73</sup> Respondents who said they had a great grandparent or earlier ancestor who was Hispanic were also asked this question, but their responses are not included here unless they also reported this for themselves or their parents or grandparents.

## Appendix D: 2014 National Survey of Latinos Topline

PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
2014 NATIONAL SURVEY OF LATINOS TOPLINE  
SEPTEMBER 11 – OCTOBER 9, 2014  
N=1,520

Note: All numbers are percentages. The percentages greater than zero but less than 0.5 % are replaced by an asterisk (\*). Columns/rows may not total 100% due to rounding.

	Sample size	Margin of error at 95% confidence level
Total Hispanic respondents	1,520	+/- 3.2% points
U.S. born (excluding Puerto Rico)	595	+/- 5.4% points
Foreign born (including Puerto Rico)	925	+/- 4.0% points

QUESTION 2, 38, 40-42, 44-45, 47-48, 50, 70 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

QUESTIONS 3-11, 13-19, 23-28, 31-32, 36, SELECT DEMOGRAPHICS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

NO QUESTIONS 12, 20-22, 29-30, 33-35, 37, 39, 43, 46, 49, 51, 60-69

### ASK ALL

RACE. Which of the following describes your race? You can select as many as apply... White, Black or African American, Asian or Asian American or some other race.

(RECORD UP TO FOUR IN ORDER MENTIONED BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL)  
(IF R VOLS MIXED BIRACIAL, PROBE ONCE: What race or races is that?)

(INTERVIEWER: IF R SAYS A NATIONALITY SUCH AS "Mexican" OR "Cuban" CODE AS "Hispanic/Latino" AND SPECIFY)

(INTERVIEWER: IF R SAYS "Indian" PROBE "Is that American Indian or Asian Indian?")

<u>Total</u>		<u>U.S. Born</u>	<u>Foreign Born</u>
46	White (e.g., Caucasian, European, Irish, Italian, Arab, Middle Eastern)	41	49
7	Black or African-American (e.g., Negro, Kenyan, Nigerian, Haitian)	6	8
1	Asian or Asian-American (e.g., Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Vietnamese or other Asian origin groups)	1	1
*	Some other race (SPECIFY; IF NEEDED: What race or races is that?)	*	*
6	Mixed race (VOL.) <sup>74</sup>	8	5
25	Hispanic/Latino (SPECIFY) (VOL.)	31	21
2	Native American/American Indian/Alaska Native (VOL.) <sup>2</sup>	1	2
*	Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian (VOL.) <sup>2</sup>	*	0
8	Don't know (VOL.)	6	10
4	Refused (e.g., non-race answers like American, human, purple) (VOL.)	4	4

<sup>74</sup> In 2014 mixed race included Latinos who volunteered that they were "mixed race," "mestizo," "mulatto" or some other mixed race or gave any two responses (including "some other race" without specifying which race that was or volunteering "Hispanic" or "Latino" or a Hispanic origin as their race). Prior to 2014, responses of "mestizo" or "mulatto" were coded as "some other race".

## RACE CONTINUED ...

## TREND

	Jul <u>2013</u>	Dec <u>2011</u>
White	46	36
Black or African-American	5	3
Asian or Asian-American	1	1
Some other race <sup>75</sup>	22	26
Mixed race <b>(VOL.)</b> <sup>1</sup>	5	6
Hispanic/Latino <b>(VOL.)</b>	16	25
Don't know <b>(VOL.)</b> <sup>76</sup>	5	2
Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	NA	1

## ASK ALL

(ROTATE A, B)

Q52. Thinking about your parents...Is your (INSERT; ROTATE) of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin, or not? And what about your [NEXT ITEM]?

[IF NECESSARY: Is your [ITEM] of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin, or not?]

a. Mother

<u>Total</u>		<u>U.S.</u> <u>Born</u>	<u>Foreign</u> <u>Born</u>
92	Hispanic	84	97
7	NOT Hispanic	15	2
1	Don't know <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	*
*	Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	*	*

b. Father

<u>Total</u>		<u>U.S.</u> <u>Born</u>	<u>Foreign</u> <u>Born</u>
90	Hispanic	81	96
8	NOT Hispanic	16	3
2	Don't know <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	1
*	Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	*	1

## ASK ALL

(INSERT "Hispanic" IF Q.2=1, INSERT "Latino" IF Q.2=2, 3, D, R)

Q53. Thinking now about your grandparents...are they ALL of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin OR are any of them NOT (HISPANIC/LATINO)?

<u>Total</u>		<u>U.S.</u> <u>Born</u>	<u>Foreign</u> <u>Born</u>
80	All are Hispanic	64	90
18	At least one is NOT Hispanic	34	8
2	Don't know <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	2
*	Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	*	*

<sup>75</sup> Prior to 2014, Native American/American Indian/Alaska Native and Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian were coded as "some other race."

<sup>76</sup> The percentage in Jul 2013 includes both Don't know and Refused responses.

## Q52a-b/Q53 COMBO TABLE

<u>Total</u>		<u>U.S. Born</u>	<u>Foreign Born</u>
76	ALL Hispanic parents/grandparents	59	87
21	At least one NOT Hispanic parent/grandparent	37	10
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	4	3

## ROTATE IN BLOCKS QUESTIONS 54-55, 56-57, 58-59

## ASK ALL

Q54. Do you consider yourself to be mixed race, that is belonging to more than one racial group, such as Mestizo, Mulatto or some other mixed race, or not?

<u>Total</u>		<u>U.S. Born</u>	<u>Foreign Born</u>
34	Yes, some mixed race	38	31
64	No, not mixed race	60	67
2	Don't know (VOL.)	2	2
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	*

## ASK ALL

Q55. What about your parents or grandparents, were any of them of mixed race, Mestizos or Mulattos, or not?

<u>Total</u>		<u>U.S. Born</u>	<u>Foreign Born</u>
29	Yes, at least one is mixed race	28	30
65	No, none are mixed race	68	64
5	Don't know (VOL.)	4	6
*	Refused (VOL.)	0	*

## Q54/Q55 COMBO TABLE

<u>Total</u>		<u>U.S. Born</u>	<u>Foreign Born</u>
34	Mixed race self	38	31
23	At least one mixed race parent, grandparent	23	23
9	NO mixed race parents, grandparents	14	6
2	Don't know/Refused if parents, grandparents mixed race	1	2
64	NOT mixed race self	60	67
6	At least one mixed race parent, grandparent	5	6
55	NO mixed race parents, grandparents	53	57
3	Don't know/Refused if parents, grandparents mixed race	2	3
2	Don't know/Refused mixed race self (VOL.)	2	2

**ASK ALL**

(INSERT "Hispanic" IF Q.2=1, INSERT "Latino" IF Q.2=2, 3, D, R)  
 (IF Q.3=1-5 DISPLAY HERITAGE FROM Q3)  
 (IF Q.3=97 AND Q.3OTH=1-33 DISPLAY HERITAGE FROM Q3OTH)  
 (IF Q.3=97 AND Q.3OTH=97, DD, RR, DISPLAY 'OR AFRO-CARIBBEAN')  
 (IF Q.3=DD, RR AND Q.4=1 DISPLAY 'PUERTO RICAN')  
 (IF Q.3=6-7, DD, RR AND Q.4=2 DISPLAY 'OR AFRO-CARIBBEAN')  
 (IF Q.3=6-7, DD, RR AND Q.4=3, D, R AND Q.5=1-12,14-30 DISPLAY ORIGIN FROM Q.5)  
 (IF Q.3=6-7, DD, RR AND Q.4=3, D, R AND Q.5=13, 31-97, DD, RR DISPLAY 'OR AFRO-CARIBBEAN')  
 Q56. Do you consider yourself to be Afro-(HISPANIC/LATINO), [Afro-Caribbean, or Afro-(INSERT 'COUNTRY OF ORIGIN' SINGULAR FROM LIST)/ or Afro-Caribbean], or not?  
 [INTERVIEWER READ AS NEEDED: "An Afro-Latino or Afro-Hispanic is Latino or Hispanic with black African ancestry"]

<u>Total</u>		<u>U.S.</u> <u>Born</u>	<u>Foreign</u> <u>Born</u>
24	Yes	14	30
73	No	83	66
3	Don't know (VOL.)	4	3
1	Refused (VOL.)	*	1

**ASK ALL**

(INSERT "Hispanic" IF Q.2=1, INSERT "Latino" IF Q.2=2, 3, D, R)  
 (IF Q.3=1-5 DISPLAY HERITAGE FROM Q3)  
 (IF Q.3=97 AND Q.3OTH=1-33 DISPLAY HERITAGE FROM Q3OTH)  
 (IF Q.3=97 AND Q.3OTH=97, DD, RR, DISPLAY 'OR AFRO-CARIBBEAN')  
 (IF Q.3=DD, RR AND Q.4=1 DISPLAY 'PUERTO RICAN')  
 (IF Q.3=6-7, DD, RR AND Q.4=2 DISPLAY 'OR AFRO-CARIBBEAN')  
 (IF Q.3=6-7, DD, RR AND Q.4=3, D, R AND Q.5=1-12,14-30 DISPLAY ORIGIN FROM Q.5)  
 (IF Q.3=6-7, DD, RR AND Q.4=3, D, R AND Q.5=13, 31-97, DD, RR DISPLAY 'OR AFRO-CARIBBEAN')  
 Q57. Are any of your parents or grandparents Afro-(HISPANIC/LATINO), [Afro-Caribbean, or Afro-(INSERT 'COUNTRY OF ORIGIN' SINGULAR FROM LIST)/ or Afro-Caribbean], or not?  
 [INTERVIEWER READ AS NEEDED: "An Afro-Latino or Afro-Hispanic is Latino or Hispanic with black African ancestry"]

<u>Total</u>		<u>U.S.</u> <u>Born</u>	<u>Foreign</u> <u>Born</u>
21	Yes, at least one is	14	26
75	No, none are	83	69
4	Don't know (VOL.)	3	4
*	Refused (VOL.)	*	*

**Q56/Q57 COMBO TABLE**

<u>Total</u>		<u>U.S.</u> <u>Born</u>	<u>Foreign</u> <u>Born</u>
24	Afro-Latino self	14	30
16	At least one Afro-Latino parent, grandparent	10	20
7	NO Afro-Latino parents, grandparents	4	9
1	Don't know/Refused if parents, grandparents Afro-Latino	*	1
73	NOT Afro-Latino self	83	66
5	At least one Afro-Latino parent, grandparent	5	5
66	NO Afro-Latino parents, grandparents	77	59
1	Don't know/Refused if parents, grandparents Afro-Latino	1	1
4	Don't know/Refused Afro-Latino self (VOL.)	4	4

**ASK ALL**

[IF MEXICAN ORIGIN (Q.3=1) OR (Q.3=D,R and Q.5=18) DISPLAY 'Purepecha (Poo-REH-peh-cha), Mixteco (MEEEX-teck-o), Zapoteco (SAH-poh-teck-o), Nahua (NAH-wah), Maya (MY-yah), Tzotzil (SOT-seel)']

[IF PUERTO RICAN, CUBAN OR DOMINICAN (Q.3=2, 3, 4) OR (Q.3=D,R, and Q.4=1) OR (Q.3=D,R, and Q.5=09,10,24) DISPLAY 'Taino (tah-EE-noh), Arawak (AH-rah-wak)']

[IF CENTRAL OR SOUTH AMERICAN (Q.3=5,6,7) OR (Q.3=D,R, and Q.5 1, 3-8,11-15, 17, 19-22, 26-29) DISPLAY 'Maya (MY-yah), Quiche (kee-CHEH), Aymara (eye-MAH-rah), Quechua (KEH-chwa), Kwichua (KEECH-wah), Mapuche (mah-POO-che), Guarani (wah-rah-NEE)']

[ALL OTHER DISPLAY 'Maya (MY-yah), Nahua (NAH-wah), Taino (tah-EE-noh), Quiche (kee-CHEH), Aymara (eye-MAH-rah), Quechua (KEH-chwa)']

Q58. Do you consider yourself to be indigenous or Native American, such as (Purepecha, Mixteco, Zapoteco, Nahua, Maya, Tzotzil/ Taino, Arawak/ Maya, Quiche, Aymara, Quechua, Kwichua, Mapuche, Guarani/ Maya, Nahua, Taino, Quiche, Aymara, Quechua) or some other indigenous or Native American origin, or not?

<u>Total</u>		<u>U.S. Born</u>	<u>Foreign Born</u>
25	Yes, indigenous or Native American origin	27	24
70	No, not indigenous or Native American origin	69	71
4	Don't know <b>(VOL.)</b>	3	5
*	Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	*	*

**ASK ALL**

[IF MEXICAN ORIGIN (Q.3=1) OR (Q.3=D,R and Q.5=18) DISPLAY 'Purepecha (Poo-REH-peh-cha), Mixteco (MEEEX-teck-o), Zapoteco (SAH-poh-teck-o), Nahua (NAH-wah), Maya (MY-yah), Tzotzil (SOT-seel)']

[IF PUERTO RICAN, CUBAN OR DOMINICAN (Q.3=2, 3, 4) OR (Q.3=D,R, and Q.4=1) OR (Q.3=D,R, and Q.5=09,10,24) DISPLAY 'Taino (tah-EE-noh), Arawak (AH-rah-wak)']

[IF CENTRAL OR SOUTH AMERICAN (Q.3=5,6,7) OR (Q.3=D,R, and Q.5 1, 3-8,11-15, 17, 19-22, 26-29) DISPLAY 'Maya (MY-yah), Quiche (kee-CHEH), Aymara (eye-MAH-rah), Quechua (KEH-chwa), Kwichua (KEECH-wah), Mapuche (mah-POO-che), Guarani (wah-rah-NEE)']

[ALL OTHER DISPLAY 'Maya (MY-yah), Nahua (NAH-wah), Taino (tah-EE-noh), Quiche (kee-CHEH), Aymara (eye-MAH-rah), Quechua (KEH-chwa)']

Q59. Are any of your parents or grandparents of indigenous or Native American origin?

(IF NECESSARY: such as (Purepecha, Mixteco, Zapoteco, Nahua, Maya, Tzotzil/ Taino, Arawak/ Maya, Quiche, Aymara, Quechua, Kwichua, Mapuche, Guarani/ Maya, Nahua, Taino, Quiche, Aymara, Quechua) or some other indigenous origin), or not?

<u>Total</u>		<u>U.S. Born</u>	<u>Foreign Born</u>
26	Yes, at least one of indigenous or Native American origin	31	23
69	No, none of indigenous or Native American origin	64	72
5	Don't know <b>(VOL.)</b>	6	5
*	Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	0	*

## Q58/Q59 COMBO TABLE

<u>Total</u>		<i>U.S. <u>Born</u></i>	<i>Foreign <u>Born</u></i>
25	Indigenous self	27	24
18	At least one Indigenous parent, grandparent	22	15
6	NO Indigenous parents, grandparents	3	8
1	Don't know/Refused if parents, grandparents indigenous	2	1
70	NOT Indigenous self	69	71
7	At least one Indigenous parent, grandparent	8	7
61	NO Indigenous parents, grandparents	60	62
2	Don't know/Refused if parents, grandparents indigenous	2	2
4	Don't know/Refused Indigenous self <b>(VOL.)</b>	4	5