



Questions & Answer Report:

- 1. Could you provide examples of well written explanations of why race/ethnicity is being collected? I'm writing one right now and would benefit from examples.**

A: Yes! Please take a look at the AHA Disparities Toolkit - they provide some examples on this page: <https://ifdhe.aha.org/hretdisparities/how-to-ask-the-questions>.
- 2. Should we ask which race they feel fits them best if they indicate they are multi-racial?**

A. The recommendation is to allow patients/clients to select which race/ethnicities best describes themselves, including allowing for the selection of multiple individual races. Wherever possible, capture the nuance! See the AHA Disparities toolkit for additional recommendations: <https://ifdhe.aha.org/hretdisparities/why-collect-race-ethnicity-language>.
- 3. I heard that the US Census recently disaggregated its data but it's still not very refined. Do you know what the new changes are? And where can we find the new list of data categories?**

A. Check out this deep dive article from the Census on the changes to the 2020 race and ethnicity question: <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/blogs/random-samplings/2021/08/improvements-to-2020-census-race-hispanic-origin-question-designs.html>.
- 4. You mentioned the 23 SDoH indicators that are tied to life expectancy- where can I find those?**

A. You can explore the HPI - and the indicators - on our map at <https://map.healthyplacesindex.org/>. If you're interested in the technical details, including the construction of each indicator within the HPI, take a look at our technical report located in our Learning Center: <https://www.healthyplacesindex.org/learning-center>
- 5. Is the HPI just for California or is it national?**

A. HPI is California only for now, but we are launching HPI in Utah next month! If you are interested in an HPI for your state, please don't hesitate to get in touch: AskHPI@thepublichealthalliance.org.
- 6. Is there a formal data guidance?**

A. We provide extensive technical documentation on the data included in the HPI, available through our Learning Center: <https://www.healthyplacesindex.org/learning-center>.
- 7. For the HPI do you have questions or tools to operationalize data equity/ increase organizations capacities for collecting more equitable data.**

A. Within the HPI map tool, we've built in multiple tools and datasets to elevate equity, including data disaggregated by race/ethnicity, equity indicators like diversity of elected officials, historical redlining, residential segregation, and more.



8. What is your definition of "decision support layers"? I missed that.

- A. Data layers that are not HPI indicators. We have hundreds of additional, contextual decision support layers to help with your work.

9. What are some good training resources for teaching staff about the importance of collecting race and ethnicity data?

The Public Health Institute Center for Wellness and Nutrition (PHI CWN) has significant expertise in developing and analyzing data tools and strategies that advance health equity, racial justice, and the social drivers of health, especially those that transform data into action. Our team of experts can work with and support your team to build capacity and reach organizational goals. We offer customized webinars and in-person training to meet your organization's unique needs. We also offer training and consultation packages. – For more information, please contact Metria.Munyan@Wellness.PHI.org

This type of training and technical assistance is also available to OT21-2103 grant recipients, provided via a partnership between The National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI), PHI CWN and other public health institutes around the county. See instructions for how to submit a request for training or technical assistance below.

10. I am noticing gray out areas, and it states no data available. What would be the methods to incorporate data in those areas?

- A. Great Question. This is an area we can support with specific technical assistance. NNPHI, PHI CWN, and public health institutes around the county are available to provide technical assistance (TA) support to OT21-2103 grant recipients. We are a part of this group and are pleased to share some guidance on requesting TA. [The TA Offerings Summary](#) provides information about NNPHI's partners and some examples of TA trainings, resources, and other support that NNPHI's partners have provided to date.

The attached [TA Request job aid](#) lays out the required steps to submit a TA request. Please note that only a few people at each health department can submit TA requests, so we recommend that you get in touch with your project lead or CDC project officer to learn who at your agency can submit a request on your behalf. To work with us at the PHI CWN or other partners of NNPHI, please select "Identifying and/or applying best and promising practices for addressing COVID-19 health disparities" as the TA topic area (see page five of the job aid for more details). You can [sign-in to request TA here](#).