



# **Race, Hispanic Ethnicity, Preferred Language and Country of Origin (REL)**

**Data Elements, Field Specifications & Codes**

**2019 Report Year**



# Race, Hispanic Ethnicity, Preferred Language and Country of Origin (REL) Data Elements, Field Specifications & Codes 2019 Report Year

## Table of Contents

REL Data Elements and Field Specifications .....	2
Table 1: Codes for Country of Origin (Birth Country) .....	4
Table 2: Codes for Preferred Language .....	6
Appendix A: Glossary of Terms.....	7

This document includes the field specifications and codes necessary to report race, Hispanic ethnicity, preferred language and country of origin (REL) information via the direct data submission (DDS) process. These specifications and codes are to be used in conjunction with the Data Collection Guides for proper completion of data files for submission.

Medical groups that submit REL data collected following best practice benefit from access to tools in the MNMCM Data Portal that stratify measure results by REL category. These tools can be used to identify gaps in health equity and/or health care disparities within organizations for focused quality improvement initiatives. Please see Appendix A for the definition of REL Best Practice.

For more information about collecting this data from patients, refer to the [Handbook on the Collection of Race Ethnicity and Language Data](#).

### SUMMARY OF CHANGES:

1. Clarification added to Notes of Race/Ethnicity fields in the REL Data Elements and Field Specifications table.
  - a. Submit each applicable Race/Ethnicity code only once per data row. Submission of the same code in multiple Race/Ethnicity fields on the same data row may incorrectly categorize the patient as having multiple races.
2. Due to high rates of Code 999 (Other) usage for the following countries, clarification has been added to Table 1:
  - a. Submit Code 177 (United Kingdom) to report England.
  - b. Submit Code 27 (Burma) to report Myanmar.



## Race, Hispanic Ethnicity, Preferred Language and Country of Origin (REL) 2019 Report Year Data Elements and Field Specifications

### REL Data Elements and Field Specifications

Field Name	Notes	Excel Format	Example
<b>Race/Ethnicity1</b> <b>Race/Ethnicity2</b> <b>Race/Ethnicity3</b> <b>Race/Ethnicity4</b> <b>Race/Ethnicity5</b>	<p>Enter the code that corresponds to the <u>patient-reported</u> race and/or ethnicity. For patients who report more than one race or race and Hispanic ethnicity, enter one code for each reported race/ethnicity, up to five. Only enter one code per Race/Ethnicity field.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">1 = American Indian or Alaska Native            2 = Asian            3 = Black or African American            4 = Hispanic or Latino            5 = Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander            6 = White            7 = Some Other Race / Patient does not identify with any of the race categories provided.            97 = Patient chose not to disclose/declined            98 = Patient reports that race/ethnicity is unknown</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only submit <u>patient-reported</u> race/ethnicity data. If the patient was not asked for their race and/or ethnicity, leave the field(s) BLANK.</li> <li>• Do not submit “multi-racial” or “bi-racial” categories. Submit only <u>individual</u> race categories. If individual race categories are not available, leave the field(s) BLANK.</li> <li>• Submit each applicable code once per data row. Submission of the same code in multiple Race/Ethnicity fields on the same data row may incorrectly categorize the patient as having multiple races.</li> <li>• See Appendix A for definitions of each race/ethnicity category.</li> <li>• Clinics/medical groups that collect Hispanic ethnicity using a question separate from race must submit data collected from both questions.</li> </ul>	Number	Race/Ethnicity1 = 3 Race/Ethnicity2 = 6  (up to five fields available)



## Race, Hispanic Ethnicity, Preferred Language and Country of Origin (REL) 2019 Report Year Data Elements and Field Specifications

Field Name	Notes	Excel Format	Example
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clinics/medical groups that collect more granular race and ethnicity data fields must map the granular categories to one of the categories provided.</li> </ul>		
<b>Country of Origin Code</b>	<p>Enter the code from Table 1 that corresponds to the <u>patient-reported</u> country of origin (birth country).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only submit <u>patient-reported</u> country of origin data. If the patient was not asked for their country of origin, leave the field BLANK.</li> <li>Enter 997 if the patient chose not to disclose country of origin.</li> <li>Enter 998 if the patient reports country of origin is unknown.</li> <li>Enter 999 if the patient reported country of origin does not match one of the codes listed in Table 1. Enter the name of the country in <i>Country of Origin "Other" Description</i>.</li> </ul>	Number	1
<b>Country of Origin Other Description</b>	If <i>Country of Origin Code</i> is 999, enter the name of the country in this field. If <i>Country of Origin Code</i> is not 999, leave BLANK.	Text	Country XYZ
<b>Preferred Language Code</b>	<p>Enter the code from Table 2 that corresponds to the <u>patient-reported</u> language of preference.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only submit <u>patient-reported</u> preferred language data. If patient was not asked for their preferred language, leave the field BLANK.</li> <li>Enter 97 if the patient chose not to disclose preferred language.</li> <li>Enter 98 if the patient reports preferred language is unknown.</li> <li>Enter 99 if the patient reported preferred language does not match one of the codes listed in Table 2. Enter the name of the preferred language in <i>Preferred Language "Other" Description</i>.</li> </ul>	Number	1
<b>Preferred Language Other Description</b>	If <i>Preferred Language Code</i> is 99, enter the name of the preferred language in this field. If <i>Preferred Language Code</i> is not 99, leave BLANK.	Text	Language XYZ



**Race, Hispanic Ethnicity, Preferred Language  
and Country of Origin (REL)  
2019 Report Year  
Data Code Tables**

**Table 1: Codes for Country of Origin (Birth Country)**

1	United States	34	Central African Republican	63	Gambia	99	Luxembourg
2	Afghanistan			64	Georgia	100	Macedonia
3	Albania	35	Chad	65	Germany	101	Madagascar
4	Algeria	36	Chile	66	Ghana	102	Malawi
5	American Samoa	37	China	67	Greece	103	Malaysia
6	Angola	38	Colombia	68	Grenada	104	Maldives
7	Argentina	39	Comoros	69	Guam	105	Mali
8	Armenia	40	Congo, Democratic Republic of	70	Guatemala	106	Malta
9	Australia			71	Guinea	107	Marshall Islands
10	Austria	41	Congo, Republic of	72	Guinea-Bissau	108	Mauritania
11	Azerbaijan	42	Costa Rica	73	Guyana	109	Mauritius
12	Bahamas	43	Cote D'Ivoire	74	Haiti	110	Mexico
13	Bahrain	44	Croatia	75	Honduras	111	Micronesia
14	Bangladesh	45	Cuba	76	Hungary	112	Moldova
15	Barbados	46	Cyprus	77	Iceland	113	Mongolia
16	Belarus	47	Czech Republic	78	India	114	Montenegro
17	Belgium	48	Denmark	79	Indonesia	115	Morocco
18	Belize	49	Djibouti	80	Iran	116	Mozambique
19	Benin	50	Dominican Republic	81	Iraq	27	Myanmar/ Burma
20	Bhutan			82	Ireland	117	Namibia
21	Bolivia	51	East Timor	83	Israel	118	Nepal
22	Bosnia Herzegovina	52	Ecuador	84	Italy	119	Netherlands
23	Botswana	53	Egypt	85	Jamaica	120	New Zealand
24	Brazil	54	El Salvador	86	Japan	121	Nicaragua
25	Brunei	177	England/United Kingdom	87	Jordan	122	Niger
26	Bulgaria	55	Equatorial Guinea	88	Kazakhstan	123	Nigeria
27	Burma/ Myanmar			89	Kenya	124	North Korea
28	Burkina Faso	56	Eritrea	90	Kuwait	125	Norway
29	Burundi	57	Estonia	91	Kyrgyzstan	126	Oman
30	Cambodia	58	Ethiopia	92	Laos	127	Pakistan
31	Cameroon	59	Fiji	93	Latvia	128	Palestinian State (proposed)
32	Canada	60	Finland	94	Lebanon		
33	Cape Verde	61	France	95	Lesotho	129	Panama
		62	Gabon	96	Liberia		
				97	Libya		
				98	Lithuania		



## Race, Hispanic Ethnicity, Preferred Language and Country of Origin (REL) 2019 Report Year Data Code Tables

130	Papua New Guinea	145	Saudi Arabia	162	Switzerland	177	United Kingdom/England
131	Paraguay	146	Senegal	163	Syria	178	Uruguay
132	Peru	147	Serbia	164	Taiwan	179	Uzbekistan
133	Philippines	148	Sierra Leone	165	Tajikistan	180	Vanuatu
134	Poland	149	Singapore	166	Tanzania	181	Venezuela
135	Portugal	150	Slovakia	167	Thailand	182	Virgin Islands, U.S
136	Puerto Rico	151	Slovenia	168	Togo	183	Vietnam
137	Qatar	152	Solomon Islands	169	Tonga	184	Western Sahara
138	Romania	153	Somalia	170	Trinidad & Tobago	185	Yemen
139	Russia	154	South Africa	171	Tunisia	186	Yugoslavia (former)
140	Rwanda	155	South Korea	172	Turkey	187	Zambia
141	Saint Lucia	156	Spain	173	Turkmenistan	188	Zimbabwe
142	Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	157	Sri Lanka	174	Uganda		
143	Samoa	158	Sudan	175	Ukraine		
144	Sao Tome and Principe	159	Suriname	176	United Arab Emirates		
		160	Swaziland				
		161	Sweden				
997	Patient chose not to disclose/declined						
998	Patient reports country of origin is unknown						
999	Other country of origin (not listed above)						

From the [Handbook on the Collection of Race/Ethnicity/Language Data in Medical Groups](#)



**Race, Hispanic Ethnicity, Preferred Language  
and Country of Origin (REL)  
2019 Report Year  
Data Code Tables**

**Table 2: Codes for Preferred Language**

8	English	10	German	18	Mandarin	27	Tagalog
1	Amharic	11	Hearing Impaired	19	Oromo	28	Thai
2	Arabic	12	Hindi	20	Polish	29	Tibetan
3	Bosnian	13	Hmong	21	Romanian	30	Tigrinya
4	Burmese	14	Japanese	22	Russian	31	Urdu
5	Cambodian	15	Karen	23	Sign Language	32	Vietnamese
6	Cantonese	16	Korean	24	Somali	33	Yoruba
7	Chinese	17	Laotian	25	Spanish		
9	French			26	Swahili		
97	Patient chose not to disclose/declined						
98	Patient reports language is unknown						
99	Other language (not listed above)						

From the [Handbook on the Collection of Race/Ethnicity/Language Data in Medical Groups](#)



## Race, Hispanic Ethnicity, Preferred Language and Country of Origin (REL) 2019 Report Year

### Appendix A: Glossary of Terms

**American Indian or Alaska Native:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America [including Central America], and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

**Asian:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia or Indian subcontinent, such as Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand and Vietnam.

**Black or African American:** A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa. Terms such as “Haitian” or “Negro” can be used in addition to “Black or African American.”

**Chose not to disclose/declined:** Indicates that the patient actively declined to provide the requested data. Refusal to provide data cannot be assumed by blank fields on registration forms or in the EMR, as the patient may have inadvertently left the field incomplete or the patient may not have been asked for the information. Evidence of declination must be clear.

**Hispanic or Latino:** A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American or other Spanish culture or origin. The term “Spanish origin” can be used in addition to “Hispanic or Latino.”

**Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

**REL:** Acronym referring to the data elements of Race, Hispanic Ethnicity, Preferred Language and Country of Origin.

**REL Best Practice:** Data collection best practice methods for REL data elements include: allowing patients to self-report race and Hispanic Ethnicity, preferred language and country of origin as well as NOT using a multi-racial category; allowing patients to select more than one race; and using a system that allows the collection and reporting of more than one race for each patient. For more information about collecting this data from patients, refer to the [Handbook on the Collection of Race Ethnicity and Language Data](#) available on [MNCM.org](#) under Submitting Data > Training & Guidance > Data Collection Guides.

**Some Other Race:** A person who is unable to identify with the race categories provided. Note: This is not meant to be used as a “multi-racial” category by a clinic. It is meant to be used ONLY if the patient self-reports he/she is unable to identify with an available race category.

**Unknown:** Patient reports that requested information is unknown to them. Information that is unknown to the clinic because the patient was not asked should NOT be submitted as Unknown, but rather left blank.

**White:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East or North Africa.