

Background: 2001 Census question

What is your ethnic group?

Choose ONE section from A to E, then tick the appropriate box to indicate your cultural background.

A White

- Scottish
- Other British
- Irish
- Any other White background, please write in

B Mixed

- Any Mixed background, please write in

C Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British

- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Chinese
- Any other Asian background, please write in

D Black, Black Scottish or Black British

- Caribbean
- African
- Any other Black background, please write in

E Other ethnic background

- Any other background, please write in

For more information, contact:

Scottish Executive Equality Unit
Area 2F
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ.

Phone: 0131 244 5519

E-mail:

ethnic-classifications@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Website:

[www.infoscotland.com/noplace/
ethnic_classifications](http://www.infoscotland.com/noplace/ethnic_classifications)

Please contact us if you would like more copies of this leaflet.

If you would like a summary of this document in your language, please phone the number above or contact us at the address above.

Chinese

中文
如果需此文檔的您的母語拷貝，
請致電以下號碼或和下列地址聯係

Bengali

আপনি যদি আপনার ভাষায় এই প্ৰতিবেদন
(কপি) চান, তা হলে নীচের ফোন নম্বরে
বা ঠিকনায় অনুগ্রহ করে যোগাযোগ করুন।

Arabic

إذا أردت نسخة من هذه الوثيقة بلغتك،
الانصال برقم الهاتف أو الكتابة إلى العنوان

Gaelic

Ma tha thu airson an fhiosrachadh seo
fhaighinn ann an cànan no dreach eile, cur
fios thugainn air 0131 244 5519.

Hindi

यदि आप इस दस्तावेज़ की प्रति अपनी भाषा में चाहते हैं,
तो कृपया निम्नलिखित नम्बर पर फोन करें अथवा दिये
गये पता पर सम्पर्क करें।

Urdu

اگر آپ اس دستاویز کی نقل اپنی زبان میں چاہتے ہیں،
میں، تو براہ کرم نیچے دیئے گئے نمبر پر فون کریں
یا دیئے گئے پتے پر رابطہ قائم کریں۔

Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਦੀ ਕਾਪੀ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ
ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਫ਼ੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਜਾਂ ਹੇਠ
ਲਿਖੇ ਪਤੇ 'ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।



Ethnic identity categories

We (the Scottish Executive) and other organisations ask questions about people's ethnic identity to:

- monitor discrimination; and
- take action to make sure we and they offer equal opportunities and treatment to all ethnic groups.

At the moment, most organisations use the ethnic categories from the 2001 Census but some people are concerned about these categories and do not think they are the best way to collect this information.

We are planning to carry out research and consultation to see if there are better ways of asking people about their ethnic identity.

This leaflet explains our plans for this work.

Why we need ethnic identity categories

We need to ask people about their ethnic identity so that we can check whether people from different ethnic backgrounds have the same opportunities and are treated in the same way. Collecting this information helps us to take action to remove any unfairness or disadvantage.

Our duties under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 make it important that we can effectively monitor policies, how we deliver services and how we employ people.

- **All public authorities have a general duty to promote racial equality and good race relations.**

Why we are doing this work

Some community groups have raised concerns about the ethnic categories used in the 2001 Census. For example, several groups were unhappy that Africans were placed under the 'black' category, while Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Chinese people were placed under the 'Asian' category.

We are committed to working with a wide range of people, communities, service providers and statisticians to:

- better understand the issues around ethnic identity categories;
- look at other ways people might want to describe their own ethnic identity; and
- continue to monitor effectively.

The General Register Office for Scotland is currently consulting on questions for the next census in 2011. We are doing this work now to make sure we have a chance to review the ethnic identity categories before the census.

What will happen next

We are planning two different phases of work.

Stage 1: December 2004 to March 2005

We will carry out research with information providers (for example, those providing information about their ethnic identity) and information users (such as local authorities and NHS) to:

- find out how people want to class their ethnic identity; and
- identify what information is needed and what it is used for.

Independent researchers will talk to a range of different people and organisations to make sure they gather a range of opinions. This research will influence the planned consultation work. If after research and consultation it looks unlikely that we can set suitable alternative categories for ethnic identity, we may have to decide to continue using the 2001 Census categories (but updated to reflect cultural and population changes in the meantime).

Stage 2: June 2005 to September 2005

Formal consultation on options for ethnic identity categories.

You can give us your views about the categories you think we should use.

If the consultation suggests different approaches, we will develop new categories for ethnic identity and use them in the 2006 Census test.

How you can get involved

The main consultation will begin in June. If you would like us to tell you when the consultation begins, please e-mail us at the address over the page. You can also phone or write to us if you do not have access to the internet. Full contact details are over the page.

What this work means for the monitoring we are doing now

This consultation process is looking at what categories we might use for the 2011 Census. It does not mean that any ethnic monitoring should end until we develop any new categories. **It is very important that organisations continue to collect ethnic monitoring information in the meantime, using the existing 2001 Census categories.**