

Racial Designation

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The categories for race in the 2010 census were white, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders. The ethnicity categories were Hispanic or Latino, and Non-Hispanic or non-Latino. As I look back in the census from 1790 there were two categories free white males and females or slaves. These categories continued until the 1860 census when American Indian/Alaska were added. In 1870 Asians were added. In 1910 they added another category (Brown, 2020). As the years progressed to 2010 more categories were added to include white, black, American Indian/Alaska, Asian Hawaii/Pacific Islanders, others and Hispanic. On the 2020 censuses if you are black or white you can actually put your origin. Many parents were finding if one parent was black and one was white how do they report their child's race. The newest census gave a lot more choices and different descriptions of each category so not to offend any one person. On the 202 census you were able to choose more than one race or origin. In the past you could only choose one (Brown, 2020).

The new race classification gave more on what fell under each of these categories. Such as white which now has examples of German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, and Black or African American has examples of African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian and Somali. I feel this gave more clarification for the census people to make better judgement on what races and origins are here in today's society. I feel like the 2020 census was a lot better designed and people didn't have to list themselves in a category that was way too broad. However, as the world grows and more people come here from foreign places it will always need to be updated so not to offend any one person. I feel like in today's society we are worried about what

others think all too much. Also, I am the same way because if you offend a race you can be sued. This world is just too much sometimes. I was always taught is you don't have anything nice to say don't say anything at all. I think this is the approach that society needs to take. There would be less crimes, violence as a whole.

Reference

Brown, A. (2020, June 17). *The changing categories the U.S. census has used to measure race.*

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/02/25/the-changing-categories-the-u-s-has-used-to-measure-race/>.