

To: JUSTIS Governance Council
From: Performance and Strategy Committee

RE: Policy Proposal: JUSTIS Race/Ethnicity Data Standard

It is the policy of the JUSTIS council that all participating agencies shall adopt the California Incident Based Reporting System's (CIBRS) data standard for race and ethnicity, as shown below, when reporting relevant race/ethnicity data into JUSTIS. The CIBRS race/ethnicity standard will go into effect 12 months from council adoption. It is the council's intent that all data generation by participating agencies migrate to the CIBRS race and ethnicity standard for agency local systems, unless otherwise required by law, regulation, or the direction of the agency executive.

W = White
1 = Hispanic
B = Black or African American
2 = Chinese
8 = Vietnamese
4 = Filipino
6 = Korean
9 = Asian Indian
5 = Japanese
3 = Cambodian
7 = Laotian
E = Other Asian
I = American Indian or Alaska Native
X = Native Hawaiian
Z = Samoan
V = Guamanian
Y = Pacific Islander
U = Unknown
S = Other

CIBRS Race-Ethnicity Table (2020 v.2 flat file specification)

Current Operating Procedures: Agencies with previous standards in place or different requirements from their stakeholders may use alternative standards, however those race and ethnicity categories must provide a translation table into CIBRS by the submitting agency.

Legacy Systems: Systems that are not operating on the CIBRS race/ethnicity table at the time of the standard going into effect will follow Current Operating Procedures, above, until systems are modified to follow the CIBRS standard, or are sunset.

Analysis:

Why the CIBRS standard: The use of consistent terminology across the JUSTIS structure is vital to ensure common understanding of our data. Alignment with CIBRS reporting standards for race/ethnicity will align the JUSTIS system, and all associated race/ethnicity data from JUSTIS agencies, with the emerging California CJ race/ethnicity standard. Further, the CIBRS program will maintain a translation table between the CIBRS and NIBRS standard, allowing for unity of definitions thru the federal level of reporting. Unified reporting on race/ethnicity across local CJ agencies will allow for uniform analysis of demographic effects across datasets, from the initial entry point into the CJ system (usually with PD) to offramps from the system (usually with APD and JUV). Additionally, adoption of State and Federal standards allows for easier reporting and analysis between jurisdictions.

Near Term Effect on Agency Systems: Legacy systems that do not comply with the CIBRS race/ethnicity standard as of the date of implementation will develop and maintain a translation table (also known as a data transformation table) for any race/ethnicity data fed into JUSTIS. Generation and maintenance of translation tables shall be incumbent on the data generating agency. The JUSTIS program will implement translation tables in JUSTIS.

Long Term Effect on Future Agency Systems: Agencies should design future systems around the CIBRS standard for race/ethnicity. This may affect future RFP/enterprise IT procurements. As agency systems adopt the CIBRS race/ethnicity standard, the requirement to maintain additional translation tables terminate.

Costs: In the short term, most agencies will be required to generate and maintain a translation table between various local data generating systems and JUSTIS. The JUSTIS system will need to accommodate varying translation tables per incoming system to align all race/ethnicity data with the CIBRS standard. Need to maintain translation tables shrinks over time as new/replacement local agency systems adopt the CIBRS standard. Agencies that opt out will continue to bear minimal costs to maintain translation tables within JUSTIS. Caveats on data within JUSTIS subject to translation tables will be necessary for context and understanding of the data (if a current 'Asian' datapoint is selected and is translated into 'Other Asian' for JUSTIS, a note annotating will be necessary.)

Updates & Currency: The Performance and Strategy Subcommittee will revisit the race/ethnicity standard on a bi-annual basis to ensure the standard meets the needs of the SF CJ system, and applicable requirements, regulation, and legislation.